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COLLEGE AND SCHOOL NEWS

Tennessee A. and I. State College,
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William J. Hale, celebrated its silver
anniversary recently with elaborate exer-
cises attended by top flight business men
and educators. The leading speaker was
Howard's Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson.

Bennett College's recent founders
day program was climaxed by announce-
ment of two \$100,000 gifts, one from
potent General Education Board, the
other from New York's Mr. and Mrs.
Henry Pfeiffer, for a library building.
"We are grateful" said President David
D. Jones.

Morristown (Tenn.) College's first
Negro president, Dr. John Haywood,
former Morgan College dean, was in-
augurated in December.

If Nashville's Meharry Medical Col-
lege friends and alumni raise \$10,000
of the \$30,000 needed for a tumor and
cancer clinic, philanthropist Edward S.
Harkness of New York City will give
the other \$20,000.

Virginia Theological Seminary's
President W. H. R. Powell, reports
\$12,178.53 raised for the rebuilding
program between May 1 and October
31, 1937. A \$50,100 mortgage was
wiped out at the November convention
there of the State Baptists.

Fisk university received \$17,450
from alumni and friends in Philadelphia
in December following a one-month
drive by 100 workers which surpassed
the \$15,000 goal. Donors of \$1,000
were A. M. E. Bishop David Sims,
Citizens and Southern Bank's president
R. R. Wright and Mrs. G. E. Dicker-
son.

Two anonymous donors gave Tuske-
gee Institute a \$100,000 Christmas
gift. "Christmas at Tuskegee was hap-
pier," said youngish President F. D.
Patterson. The money will be used to
renovate the trade school, agricultural
and boarding departments, and the girls'
and boys' dormitories, with work done
by students largely.

Atlanta university in December
exhibited biographical library material
relating to the pioneer Negro educator,
Prince Saunders, who set up an edu-
cational system in Haiti and introduced
vaccination there in 1816, and became a
bosom friend of Emperor Christophe.

Presented to Howard university
for its Trustee Room in December was
a twenty-four and one-half inch circular

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brass repousse Plaque with profile head of the English poet, John Milton, in high relief. Donor was Dr. Albert Bushnell Hart, noted Harvard savant and Howard trustee.

West Virginia State College officially opened in December its recently installed radio broadcasting facilities with singing by its acappella choir.

Florida Normal College received from Dr. D. H. Stanton of Atlanta in December a magnificent bible for use in its chapel.

Kentucky Negro Educational Association's legislative committee in its December meeting in Louisville turned down by 4 to 5 the proposed merger of West Kentucky Industrial College at Paducah with the Kentucky State College at Frankfort. Gov. A. B. Chandler sponsored the merger. Opposition of Paducah's leading Negroes spiked the move.

Believe it or not, the Oklahoma Youth Legislature meeting at Oklahoma City university on December 29, elected Earnest Armstrong, Tulsa Negro Y.M.C.A. youth, to chairmanship of the social and religious caucus. Most delegates were white college students.

On December 9-10, 1937, Xavier and Dillard universities (New Orleans) were hosts to the fourth annual meeting of the Association of College and Secondary schools for Negroes. It discussed education, citizenship and employment opportunities for Negroes.

Fayetteville (N.C.) State Teachers' College reports 29 students earning a "B" average or better for the first quarter 1937-38 school year.

Negroes cannot attend the University of Missouri decreed the state supreme court in December when it refused to force enrollment of 25-year-old Lloyd

Gaines of St. Louis. State aid is inadequate and facilities at Jefferson City's Lincoln university are inferior to those at the "white" state college.

Virginia colored teachers contributed \$1,000 through their state association in December and promised \$4,000 more to finance the fight for equalization of salaries with white teachers. The move is headed by Richmond's Dr. J. M. Tinsley, president of the N.A.A.C.P. Virginia State Conference.

The Oklahoma Association of Negro Teachers is appropriating \$3,300 for salary, office rent and traveling expenses of a full-time secretary who will determine job possibilities for Negroes and correlation of education in Oklahoma.

Meeting in St. Louis on December 18, the Missouri State Association of Negro Teachers created a survey commission to study educational conditions in the state. Other worthwhile projects were considered and adopted.

St. Louis Negro members of that

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city's Teachers Credit Union have found its facilities a financial salvation, freeing them from loan sharks and salary buyers. Operation costs are low and so are loan rates.

Attorney Robert Ming, Jr., of Chicago, University of Chicago alumnus, is now assistant professor of law at Howard university.

George W. Davis, former teacher of industrial arts at the State College for Colored Students at Dover, Del., and an alumnus of Hampton Institute, became assistant to the dean of men there in December.

Miss Daisy Fearing, first colored woman teacher in the public schools of Jersey City, resigned last December '1. She taught continuously from 1898.

The Anna T. Jeanes Fund for colored rural schools has gone down to \$15,919.12, reports the General Education Board.

Over 1,000 residents of Fluvanna (Va.) county attended exercises in December dedicating the new \$25,000 S. C. Abrams high school at Scottsville.

Laurens, S.C., dedicated in December the new \$24,000 Thomas Sanders high school. Principal Thomas Sanders, now 78, has headed the school since 1895.

Out of 300,000 parochial and high school students in New York City, a Negro blind girl, Frances Berry, attending Wadleigh high school, won first prize of \$40 in a chamber of commerce essay contest.

Kappa Alpha Psi's national publicity director G. James Fleming, has declared that college fraternities do not give sufficient support to Negro newspapers. The statement appeared in the Kappa's Journal.

At the 27th grand conclave of the Kappa Alpha Psi in Washington in December, \$200 was contributed to the work of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity met in New Orleans during the recent holidays with some 2,000 attending. The women's organization awarded its fifth annual \$1,000 foreign fellowship and continued its \$800 national loan fund. The men's organization awarded scholarships totaling \$1,125.

The Lambda Omega Chapter of A.K.A. of Newport News, Va., is raising funds for a public library.

The Omega Psi Phi fraternity's national essay contest drew over 1,100 contestants. Subject: "Causes and Effects of Juvenile Delinquency Among Negroes."

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ROY WILKINS, Editor

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Volume 45, No. 2

Whole No. 326

CONTENTS FOR FEBRUARY, 1938

COVER

Hubert T. Delany, Tax Commissioner, New York City

SNATCHED FROM THE CHAIN GANG

By Simon Minor..... 39

A LABOR BOYCOTT FOR PEACE

By Harold Preece..... 42

THE AFRO: SEABOARD'S LARGEST WEEKLY

By Carl Murphy, William N. Jones, William I. Gibson 44

BOOKS BY NEGRO AUTHORS IN 1937

By Arthur B. Spingarn..... 47

EDITORIALS

49

FROM THE PRESS OF THE NATION

51

COCOA WAR ON THE GOLD COAST

By George Padmore..... 52

NEGRO WOMEN IN STEEL

By Mollie V. Lewis..... 54

ALONG THE N.A.A.C.P. BATTLEFRONT

News from the Branches and Youth Councils....55-59

BOOK REVIEW

60

THE CRISIS was founded in 1910. It is published monthly at 69 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y., by Crisis Publishing Company, Inc., and is the official organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. The subscription price is \$1.50 a year or 15c a copy. Foreign subscriptions \$1.75. The date of expiration of each subscription is printed on the wrapper. When the subscription is due a blue renewal blank is enclosed. The address of a subscriber may be changed as often as desired, but both the old and new address must be given and two weeks' notice is necessary. Manuscripts and drawings relating to colored people are desired. They must be accompanied by return postage, and while THE CRISIS uses every care it assumes no responsibility for their safety in transit. Entered as second class matter November 2, 1910, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879, and additional second class entry at Albany, N. Y.

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THE COVER

January 1 brought several important appointments and inductions into public office among colored people. In Philadelphia, Joseph H. Rainey became the second Negro magistrate in that city, while in New York, District Attorney Thomas E. Dewey appointed Mrs. Eunice H. Carter and Francis E. Rivers as assistant district attorneys. One of the most responsible appointments, however, was that of Hubert T. Delany, 34, as commissioner of taxes and assessments for the city of New York. This is his second term. He was sworn in for his first time by Mayor F. H. LaGuardia, January 29, 1934. As one of the members of the board of taxes and assessments, Commissioner Delany has jurisdiction over sixteen and one-half billion dollars of taxable property in the City of New York. Included in his special jurisdiction is the property on the fabulously wealthy island of Manhattan, including the Wall Street district, the famed mid-town area with its Empire State tower and its Rockefeller Center and upper Manhattan with its Columbia university and other important properties.

NEXT MONTH

THE CRISIS in March will present an article by Dr. Harry F. Ward on peace and democracy, which is an outline of the objectives and philosophy of the American League for Peace and Democracy.

There will be, also, a short sketch of the Oklahoma Youth Legislature by Nick Aaron Ford.

We expect to offer in addition, an article on business education by V. V. Oak; the second in the series of articles on the Negro press, dealing with the New York Age; and a review of the debate in the Senate on the Gavagan-Wagner-Van Nuys anti-lynching bill.

There will be, also, a discussion of the move by the state of Maryland through Gov. Harry W. Nice to equalize the teachers' salaries in that state, which will bring \$486,000 into the pay envelopes of Negro teachers.

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Simon Minor lives in Hempstead, L. I.

Harold Preece has done several articles for THE CRISIS and for other liberal publications. He lives in Texas.

Carl Murphy is the president of the Afro-American Company; William I. Gibson is managing editor of the Afro-American newspapers; and William N. Jones is a nationally known columnist for the AFRO.

Arthur B. Spingarn is chairman of the national legal committee of the N.A.A.C.P. and possesses, perhaps, the most complete collection of books by Negroes in the United States.

George Padmore lives in London. He will be remembered for his series of articles in THE CRISIS last year on Africa and world politics, and is the author of "How Britain Rules Africa."

Mollie V. Lewis, who has long been interested in liberal labor movements lives in New York.

Snatched from the Chain Gang

By Simon Minor

I AM about to relate a thrilling experience of mine which I will always remember.

I am 37 years old and was born seven miles from Aiken, South Carolina, on a farm owned and operated by my parents.

My training in the schools was very little as the terms were short and my work on the farm was seemingly the most important thing at that time for me to do.

At the age of 15, I felt that I could make it better in life by shifting for myself; therefore, I left my home and the guiding hands of my parents and went to Augusta, Georgia.

Arriving there, the few pennies I had were spent on food and I thought that I would get a job the next day doing any kind of work, so as it was warm, I picked a nice spot on the grass to sleep that evening in the public park.

At three o'clock in the morning, I was awakened by a police officer and in my fright at seeing him I started to run. He called to me to halt or he would shoot. I obeyed. He immediately placed me under arrest and at the station I was put through the third degree by two officers who slapped, pushed and kicked me about trying to make me confess to a robbery which I knew I didn't do.

I told them where I had come from and why I was in Augusta, but the beating continued regardless, and I was booked before the judge next morning on robbery charges.

I repeated to the judge that I didn't do any robbing, but my word wasn't considered and I couldn't get in touch with my parents and in less than five minutes I was given a three-year term on the Georgia chain gang.

I was hustled out of the court to Richmond county, about a twenty-minute ride.

On arrival I was immediately put in prison stripes, ball and chain about my leg, ready to start the three years. The working hours were from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The person in charge of the chain gang had a revolver and a whip made of a heavy leather belt a yard long and about one-half inch thick.

Any slowing up on work or, in fact, anything he thought was wrong, you were whipped on your bare back from 25 to 50 lashes.

First Escape

I withstood this cruelty for three months before an opportunity presented itself for an escape. While working in the thick woods with shackles on both ankles, I made a dash for freedom. The guard shot at me and missed so I continued through the swamps, woods, etc., for at least two miles before I could get aid.

A farm hand saw my plight and assisted me in breaking the shackles, gave me \$1.00, a hat and overalls and wished me luck.

Being a boy and not so familiar with that part of the country, I was apprehended by a sheriff after three days of freedom, and was immediately returned to the chain gang.

I received a severe whipping that night, fifty lashes on my bare back.

They worked me very hard and I hardly thought I could make it another day. Anyway, I remained there for two and one-half months before the next opportunity presented itself.

One evening we were returning to the stockade in the prison truck with 40 prisoners and one guard who carried a

rifle across his lap. As we were approaching a large swamp about ten miles from our camp, a shot was fired by one of the prisoners. The bullet hit the guard in the right shoulder and he immediately slumped over. We took his gun from him while one man got out of the truck and covered the driver who was also armed. He took the driver's gun away and all hands made for the swamp. After we had gone a little distance we began breaking the chains from our ankles with the hammer and ax we took from the truck.

After breaking chains, I jumped into a pond in the swamp and I swam across, pulling myself up by a little brush on the edge of the bank.

Then, I ran one-half a mile to a highway and on seeing an approaching car, I signalled for aid and the colored driver gave me a lift. He took me to his home about five miles into the country and gave me clean, dry clothing and fifty cents and bid me farewell, telling me that the nearest railroad was about five miles north.

It was about two o'clock in the morning when a freight came along and I hopped it and rode until I reached Sumter, S. C., arriving there about 10 a.m. the next day. As the train slowed up just before reaching Sumter, I got off and walked around the station and came into the city another way, fearing capture by the railroad detectives and a possible return to the chain gang. In Sumter, I went into a pool room and acquainted myself with a young man there. He took me to his home and gave me food, and, seeing how ferociously I ate, he asked me when I ate last. I replied, "Not since three days ago." He then asked his mother to give me another helping. I stayed there three days trying in vain to secure work, but failing in this, I started traveling on foot again; I thought that in some of the towns I passed through, I might find some work to help me with the matter of food and shelter as I went along.

After walking about 30 miles north without stopping for rest, I walked away from the highway about one-half mile and made a pillow out of my coat on the ground beside an old tree and there spent the rest of the night.

When I woke up the next day, I walked about two miles farther and came upon a house in which an old white lady lived and I requested food from her. She asked me to cut her some wood, which I did, and in return, she loaded me down with food.

Hitch Hiker

On leaving the kind old lady, luck again seemed to be in my favor, as I hadn't walked far before I was given a lift by a white truck owner who picked me up and rode me about ten miles. He saw my ragged shoes, and my ill fitting clothes and inquired where I was headed and I told him I was just traveling. It so happened that he had an old pair of shoes in the back of the truck and he gave them to me, for which I thanked him and was very grateful.

At the end of the ten miles, he put me out and wished me luck. About three miles further down the road, I saw a watermelon patch, and being very hungry, I picked a nice melon and went down in the woods and ate the whole melon, which made me ill, but I staggered on and came to a colored tenant farmer's house who gave me some soda and offered to permit me to lie down on his porch until I felt better. I refused and walked about one-half mile farther and found a nice shady spot away from the highway and rested there for about two hours. When I felt better I continued my journey.

A little farther down the road, I passed a farm house, which I did not enter. But as I walked a few yards farther, I saw a chicken on the highway which I caught and went down in the woods besides a brook where I killed, cleaned, and barbecued the chicken. It was a crude job, as I had no lard, pepper, etc., but when my oak fire coals had browned it, it was to me a meal for the gods.

I rested awhile and then started on my journey refreshed by the food and rest.

I walked on until I came to a high hill where I prepared a bed out of leaves and my coat. This being about 10 o'clock at night and I could not see well, I laid my coat over a bees' nest and while asleep, they proceeded to sting me about the face, arms and hands. I ran until I could fight them off, but my face was in a terrible condition, swollen and very sore. Yet, I continued walking until I reached Florence, S. C., where I met a fellow who inquired about my condition and when I told him, and also told him that I was broke and could buy no medicine, he went into the drug store and purchased some and gave it to me.

I massaged myself with the salve, and walked to another hill and sat down by a stump just thinking, wondering if I would ever make it to safety, wondering what my parents were doing, and longing for the safety and comfort of my own home. Certainly conditions like these make you know the truth of the song: "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home." I surely knew this to be true now; as I had lived to regret the day I ever left Aiken, S. C. My meditation was disturbed by the distant bark of a dog. I walked higher up the hill and in the distance, I saw a light. I knew it was a farm house and I thought that if I could make it there, I might be able to spend the night in the hay loft in the barn. On reaching the vicinity of the house, the dog barked louder and chased me out through an open space. The farmer himself joined the chase and fired at me two or three times, but missed. I ran for about a mile after which the dog turned back and I sat down and rested myself for about an hour. I soon got up and walked a little distance through this open country, and looking up, I noticed a cloud forming in the West, yet I paid it no attention.

It soon began to thunder. Lightning flashed, and I remembered what my father had always told me, that when I was in a storm to go into the woods and cling as close as I could to the roots of a large tree. This I did, yet the elements raged and I could imagine no electric storm every being any worse. Of course, it is foolish to say that I wasn't afraid, for fear had gripped me all over, and just when I thought that all was over, the rain came down in torrents and I

could do nothing but just sit there, and it seemed to me that I was the target for all the water that dropped.

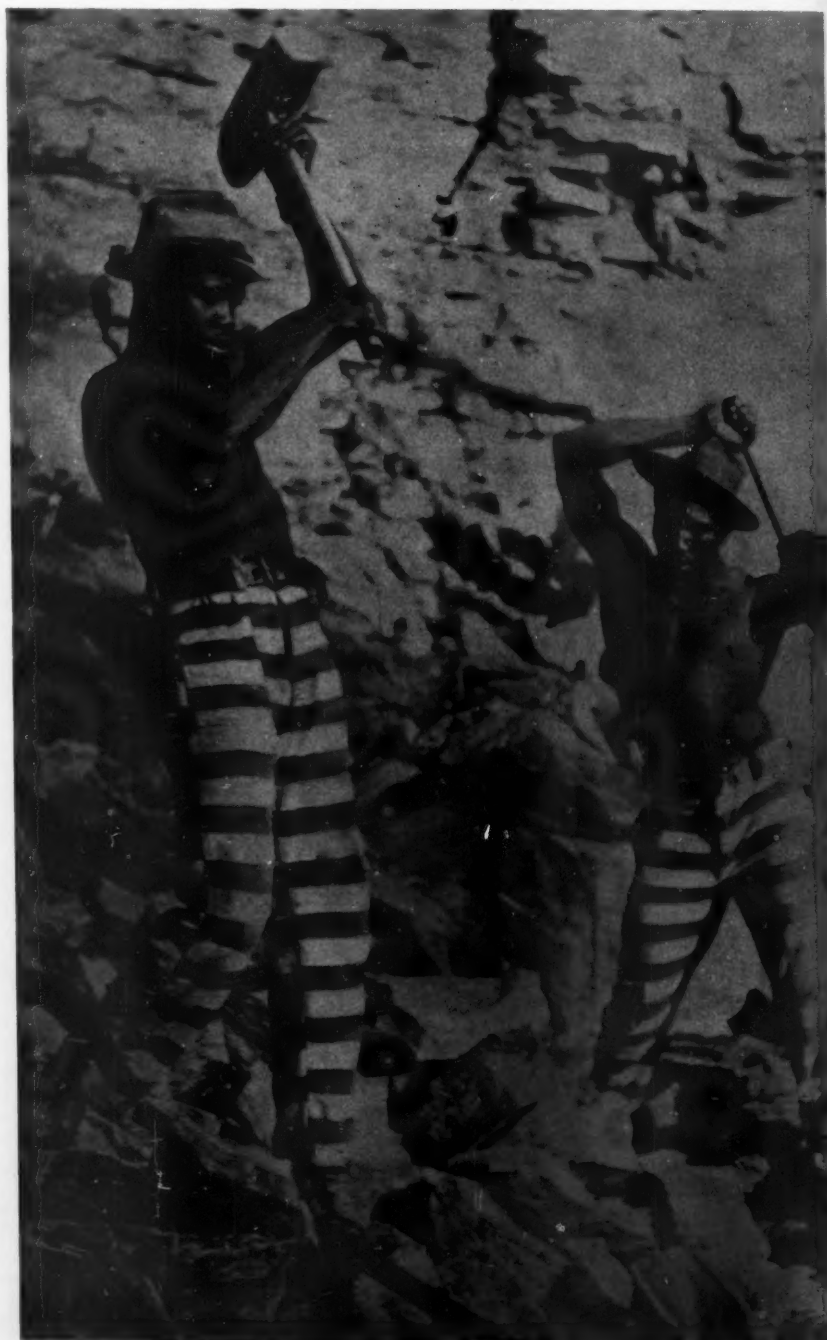
As the rain subsided the next day, I walked until I came upon a deserted log cabin on the side of the hill; there I rested and dried out for about a day. While there, my thoughts were more and more upon my mother. I felt friendless, homeless. I thought, with tears in my eyes, of the song my mother used

to sing, "Where is my wandering boy tonight?"

Along about dusk, I left the cabin and shortly thereafter, I met a man with a wagon who gave me a lift for about eight or ten miles. On leaving this man, I spent another night in the woods.

A Job and a Wife

The next day I came upon a saw mill



Typical scene on a Georgia chain gang

International

and secured a job throwing wood upon the saw, and being a greenhorn, I had three fingers on my right hand cut off. I was taken to a hospital and remained there for about a month. I only got my doctor's bill and a few cents over as a result of this accident. When I was walking around in the hospital to gain strength, I sneaked over a high fence, one day and continued my journey north. Of course, I didn't go back to the saw mill, as I was hurt after being there only about one-half hour and I considered myself fortunate in getting my doctor's bill paid, so when I slipped out of the hospital, I went in another direction.

My next stop after hitch-hiking some more, was in Richmond, Va. Here I secured a job in a bakery at a salary of \$12 a week. It seemed that finally I was having some luck. I worked there for about two years and had made a few friends and had secured some decent clothing and had generally established myself. One night, I met a girl at a party, and about a year later, we got married. Out of this union there was born one child. Later we left Virginia and came to New York. We lived together here for about five years. My wife became wild and restless here so finally we separated. I had admonished her about her conduct, but it did no good, so she went her way, and I went mine.

About three years later, I met another girl and we were married. She was a minister's daughter and we lived happily together. All seemed smooth; life seemed kind; I was working, keeping up my home, and my wife and I were happy. But this was not destined to last. Early one morning, Abraham Davis, one of the boys who escaped with me on the second break from the camp, came to my door.

Naturally, at first I was glad to see him because we had suffered and endured things together and we could talk of our secret escape. This man, whom I trusted, was later to prove my undoing, as he had doubled back after our escape, and had finished his sentence; but he led me to believe that he was an escapee just as I was.

Back to the Chain Gang

Davis asked me one morning where I was working, and not thinking any evil of him, I told him and thought no more of it, but I was to learn better later, for after I had been at work about an hour one morning, three plainclothesmen came upon me and commanded at the point of guns, "Get 'em up, Simon."

At first I wondered what the trouble was, but as I remained in the Mineola, L. I., jail, the whole bitter truth of my

betrayal by Davis came to me quite clearly. I remained in the jail for about three weeks and while there, my whole thoughts were of my wife, Georgie, whom I thought I'd never see again.

One Saturday afternoon, while my wife and her sister were visiting me in Mineola, three men from Georgia came to take me back to the prison camp. I was very despondent on leaving and I told my wife I didn't think I'd ever see her again. She told me she was doing all she could for me as she had a lawyer employed. Many colored and white citizens of New York kept fighting my case, even while I was back in prison and after staying there five months and seven days, I was pardoned by the Governor of Georgia.

My second trip to the camp was worse than the first. I was treated very cruelly by the guards and the keepers.

I had to go back again over all the rough, back-breaking work that I had endured before; and the whippings were still the bane of my existence.

Freedom Again

I think the most beautiful sight that I had ever seen was the morning when I was working on the road and my lawyer, Mr. Schulze, and two more men came and got me and told me I had been pardoned. I literally shouted for joy.

As we motored back, we would stop at roadside inns for food. Of course, I had to eat in the kitchen while the white men ate in the dining room, but I didn't mind that as I was so overjoyed with the realization that I was free and was on my way home and it seemed that the car was merely creeping home.

One day later, we reached Hempstead, L. I., on the way to my home. I saw my wife coming from work. I yelled at her and she partly recognized me as I was worn and haggard, needing a shave, and clean clothes. We stopped and picked her up and went to Mr. Schulze's office. On our arrival there, we find over 100 people waiting to see me. They questioned me about one hour, asking me about the prison camp, the treatment, etc.

Finally, I broke away from the crowd, and went home to rest, only to find another large crowd there in the same questioning mood. So my wife wrote a note and placed it on the door, asking people "not to disturb" as she knew I needed some rest.

The next day, the crowd was no less curious, as colored and white gathered around me wherever I went, questioning me about the camp. These questions I answered the best I could.

This is but a part of the inhuman treatment and the hard time I suffered,

yet I'm thankful to God that it's all over now and I can forget it as one does an ugly nightmare when dawn awakens.

I am at home now, 47 Maple Avenue, Hempstead, N. Y. My wife and children and I are very happy and I am eternally grateful to God and all who helped me in my trial and my distress.

I am now a faithful church worker, my wife and I both, and I pray God's blessings upon you all.

Hotel Survey

Two surveys, hotels owned and operated by Negroes and theatres catering to the Negro, both of which should prove helpful to Negroes, are in progress in the Division of Negro Affairs, U. S. Department of Commerce.

The Census of 1930 showed that 1,064 Negroes were either hotel keepers or managers and, although available data indicate that as a result of the recent depression many of these operators are no longer in business. It is hoped that as a result of this survey, the Division of Negro Affairs will be able to contribute to the prosperity of those remaining through disseminating the latest information concerning their location, capacity, and equipment and by making known to proprietors and managers practices which are paying dividends.

Loneliness

By INGE HARDISON

I saw a peony
Weeping white, white petals
On a green lawn

The day was filled
With breezes warm as love
And sunlight fair

The air was gay
With pastel smells and shades
Of coquette flowers

But—
I saw a peony
Weeping white, white petals
On a green lawn

"In seven items Negro schools in this state are almost identical in standards with the white schools," declared N. C. Newbold, North Carolina's Superintendent of Public Instruction at Durham's North Carolina State College for Negroes in December.

Philadelphia's Sulzberger Evening School opened in December a class for waitresses and waiters because of the increasing demand for well-trained domestics.

A Labor Boycott for Peace

By Harold Preece

HISTORY is repeating itself very dangerously. Once again, America is an interested outsider watching a brewing conflict—but an outsider drawn ever more closely to the center of events. Once again, as in those years between 1914 and 1917, we are witnessing elaborate preparedness moves on the one hand and hearing florid peace resolutions on the other. The air is heavy with a quavering idealism expressed through the Oxford pledge and other well-meaning declarations. Meanwhile the war drums beat steadily in the distance.

I do not mean to be a pessimist despite the little party which Japan is staging in China. I should like to think that it is only necessary to elect some earnest gentleman to the Presidency and then forget about what is happening in the rest of the world. Certainly, I have the utmost faith in Mr. Roosevelt's personal integrity. But it is wise for the American people to trust first in their own organized power for peace.

Let us remember that we had a liberal President of the same political faith when we entered the last gory massacre. The people, tired of plutocratic rule, elected as their chief executive a man with a brilliantly progressive record as governor of New Jersey. In 1916, they re-elected him on the plea, "he kept us out of war." Before that President had been inaugurated for a second term, diplomatic relations had been severed with Germany. Within a few months more, the young men of America—white and Negro—were being transported overseas to die of gangrene or shrapnel.

Weakness of Isolationists

Throughout that period, we had heard the constant cry of "absolute neutrality." No less a person than President Wilson himself had urged American citizens to take no side in the bloody free-for-all. Like a modern Noah, Henry Ford launched his famous "peace ship" in an effort to stop the most grisly conflict of modern times. But quixotic phrases and gestures could not prevent Wall Street from laying the basis for our participation. Today, those same speculators are again granting credits to the aggressor nations of the world. There will come a time not many months hence when the young men will again be called upon to collect Wall Street's bills.

And while the duPont munitions works operate at full speed, our political romanticists—the advocates of isolation

The isolationists are deceiving themselves if they believe America can avoid war by simply shutting her eyes to world events, says this writer, who advocates a labor boycott against aggressor nations

—confuse the minds of the American people. Alfred Bingham, the gifted young editor of "Common Sense" concocts pamphlets assuring us that America has only to remain indifferent to whatever fracas may develop in the rest of the world. One hears the same attitude expressed in the pulpit, in the meetings of erudite pacifists, and in the halls of Congress. "Do nothing and nothing will happen"—this stock formula which has never kept us out of any war is once more produced from the sacred medicine bag of the liberal intelligentsia, an invoked as a cure-all for every international complication that besets us.

Under the liberal interpretation of contemporary forces, we should not engage in boycotts against the present aggressors: Japan, Germany, and Italy. If our womenfolk stopped buying silk stockings, for instance, Japan would be severely handicapped in providing funds for the slaughter of Chinese peasants. This economic crippling of Japan might produce such a severe domestic crisis that the Japanese military caste would be swept from power and a democratic government installed at Tokio. On the other hand, so argue the spokesmen of absolute neutrality, Japan would become angry at us, thus increasing our chances for being involved in the second World War.

I suspect that none of the totalitarian governments have any love for a country where the masses still cling to the old-fashioned notion of electing their own rulers. The recent "anti-Communist pact," signed by the diplomatic banditti, is clearly a covenant of destruction against every democracy in the world. Nor is the situation improved by the pompous bluffing of the democratic statesmen.

America Not a Province

Our friends who advocate isolation are honest even when they are deceiving themselves. Their political economy is derived, however, from a period when America was thirteen struggling provinces isolated in time and space from the rest of the universe. When Wash-

ington delivered his memorable farewell address, he was speaking to a nation still semi-feudal, a country with a working-class composed of chattel-slaves in the South and independent artisans in the North. The gigantic monopolies were yet unborn, and the American flag had not begun to follow the American dollar around the world.

The isolationists need to temper their love of peace with a reading of American history. Far too many citizens do not realize that we were already becoming involved in world affairs only a few years after Washington had retired from the presidency. President Jefferson rebuked the rapacious powers seeking to destroy the infant French republic and urged the American people to boycott the nations invading France. When Northern merchants became tired of paying tribute to the pirates of Tripoli, the American navy was employed to protect Northern commerce. A few more years passed, and the pressure of the world scene had drawn us into a second war with Great Britain. Later, in 1823, President Monroe promulgated his famous "doctrine" as a warning to those monarchs who would re-establish autocracy in Latin America.

Peace an International Problem

At this present stage of history, with America a leading power, it is suicidal for us to imagine that we can build a wall between ourselves and the rest of the world. Is it not clear from the successive examples of Ethiopia, Spain, and now China, that peace is as much of an international problem as war? We vainly imagine that we can sit contentedly by our own firesides until the storm is finished. Every victory of the Fascist nations simply increases our own danger, and at the same time checks the forces of peace over the entire world.

How has the principle of absolute neutrality worked during this age of new barbarian invasions? By the failure of the democratic nations to apply effective sanctions, Italy has acquired new territory in Africa from which she can draw substantial resources to wage war. It was a crying disgrace that Italy could obtain supplies for her bloody conquest while Ethiopia, a poor country, could obtain nothing.

Fresh from the massacre of black babies, Italy next turned her attention to democratic Spain. Today, Italian and German soldiers are engaged in destroy-

ing the aspirations of the last people to overthrow their king. With the puppet dictator, Franco, installed in Madrid, Italy will have a free hand against Great Britain and France in the Mediterranean. France, herself, will be surrounded by Fascist neighbors who will not long tolerate her republican form of government. Germany will be at liberty to impose "Aryan civilization" upon progressive Czecho-Slovakia. Meanwhile the reluctance of the democratic nations to take a definite stand, one way or the other, encourages Japan's ambitions in China. After China, there is another rich prize to be divided between the international outlaws—Russia.

Actually the policy of neutrality has helped only these sworn enemies of freedom. Franco has received unlimited supplies and armed soldiers from Germany and Italy, two nations who originally committed themselves to strict non-participation in the Spanish civil war. By adhering to the "neutrality agreement," the supposed friends of Spain have condemned her to death at the hands of the international Fascist alliance. Today, we are witnessing a similar process in China. Money talks with capitalists of any country so that Japan will have little difficulty in getting whatever she needs from the democratic nations. But impoverished China, fighting to retain her national sovereignty, must content herself with pious good-wishes and ineffectual little tea-parties described politely as diplomatic conferences.

Fascism Invades Americas

Our isolationists might have ground to stand upon if this part of the world were immune to Fascist influences. But the Roman eagle has already established a nest in Brazil, and there are strong reactionary groups, equally determined, in the other Western republics. Mr. R. A. Martinez, an authority on Latin-American affairs, described the situation very accurately in *The New Masses* for November 30, 1937, when he declared:

"What is happening in Brazil has happened in a somewhat lesser degree in every other Latin-American country. That the majority of these countries have sided with the international Fascist bloc in recent years is no accident. It is the result of persistent and well-planned efforts by the German, Italian, and Japanese governments. The reactionary forces of Latin America have without exception received political and financial support from the Fascist International."

For months, those of us who live in the Southwestern states have heard rumors of an impending Fascist uprising in Mexico. Indeed Fascist activities in the Mexican republic are directed from

the Texas border city of El Paso. If Madrid falls, our next-door neighbor will face the convulsions of revolt and that revolt will be supported by certain American industrialists. There are also danger signals to the North as Quebec's reactionary premier outlaws the trade unions and suppresses pro-labor newspapers. Here on American soil, we have scores of Fascist organizations with armed Nazi troopers actually drilling under the protection of the American flag.

For the more reactionary employers of America are quick to copy from their brethren in the Fascist countries. What are the company unions but replicas of the servile organizations created by the totalitarian states? Can any of us doubt that the Tom Girdler breed of employer would willingly see Fascism established in America? These same gentlemen who finance such anti-Negro, anti-labor rackets as the Black Legion, who move heaven and earth to crush such an interracial movement as the Committee for Industrial Organization, are also the same persons who consider it the inherent duty of every American citizen to defend their plunder.

Another gigantic depression, such as is now being attempted by our "captains of industry," might easily lead us to war—to the present incipient war whose main issue is the ownership of the subject colored peoples. Whenever the masters have been threatened with rebellion at home, they have sent their starving slaves to the battlefield on rations of patriotism and navy beans. There are always hungry, ragged men who can be hired for the dirty work. Are we not hearing continually the subtle argument of the militarists, "War would mean jobs for everybody?"

Labor Boycott Advocated

But one assurance the masses do have as all the powers of hell are unleashed to devour their bodies. That assurance is the strength of their own labor power if they will but use it. The invasion of Spain and China could be stopped tomorrow if the workers would apply their own mighty sanctions of strike and boycott. Let those who produce the wealth of the world refuse to manufacture and transport supplies for the aggressor nations or to buy goods from countries where workers are enslaved. Millions of us, withholding our labor, would be more effective in a single day than all the pacifist speakers since the dawn of Christendom.

Such an action would also inspire those living under Fascist dictatorships to re-establish peaceful, democratic governments in their own countries. I would remind the skeptical that the mere threat of a transport workers' strike in 1924

prevented the British financiers from warring upon Russia. Certainly we are now playing with dynamite in the shape of high-sounding resolutions and double-edged phraseology. Peace can become a reality only when the masses act realistically to insure it.

Kentucky Educator Honored

W. H. Fouse, principal of Dunbar high school of Lexington, Ky., has recently been the recipient of a number of honors. He was elected president of the Kentucky Negro Education Association at its April meeting. On June 11, Mr. Fouse received his master's degree from the University of Cincinnati submitting as his thesis, "A History of Education of the Negroes of Lexington, Ky." Three days later his alma mater, Otterbein college of Westerville, Ohio, conferred on him the honorary degree of doctor of pedagogy, for distinguished services rendered Negro education during his 44 years in the school room as teacher and administrator. This honor was rather significant because Mr. Fouse is the only Afro-American that has ever been graduated from this institution and the only member of his class of 1893 that has been thus honored.

On June 13 Mr. Fouse was on the program along with the president of Otterbein college, the governor of Ohio and the city manager of Westerville, in dedicating the Hanby Home and turning it over to the Archaeological and Historical Association of Ohio as a national shrine in memory of Ben Hanby, author of the ballad, "My Darling, Nellie Gray" which ranked as an equal to "Uncle Tom's Cabin" in creating sentiment in favor of freedom for the black man.

Mr. Fouse was the only Kentucky Negro representative in the delegate assembly of the N.E.A. which met recently in Detroit. He officially represented the affiliated unit known as the Lexington Association of Teachers in Colored Schools.

Dunbar high school in 1931 was one of the first eight high schools in the thirteen southern states to qualify for "A" rating membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, the first Negro high school of Kentucky to receive this rating.

Dr. Fouse is active in civic affairs, being a member of the executive board of the charter league under the city manager-commission form of government of Lexington. He was one of two Lexington teachers invited by the Board of Education to act with them in selecting a superintendent to fill the vacancy created by the death of M. A. Cassidy.

The Afro: Seaboard's Largest Weekly

By Carl Murphy, Wm. N. Jones and Wm. I. Gibson

THREE men with but a single hobby are responsible for the AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers which in 1937 celebrated their 45th anniversary.

Two of them were clergymen and the other a Sunday school superintendent.

The Rev. William M. Alexander, pastor of Sharon Baptist Church, Baltimore, organized a provision store and on August 13, 1892, printed a four-page sheet, which he called the Afro-American, to advertise his church and community enterprises.

John H. Murphy, a white-washer by trade and superintendent of St. John African Methodist Sunday school, wanted, above all else, to unite state Sunday schools into a convention on the order of the Epworth League and Christian Endeavor.

He purchased type fonts and a press, put them in his cellar and printed his small paper which he named the Sunday School Helper.

The Rev. George F. Bragg, pastor of St. James Episcopal Church, the only one of the trio still living, printed a church and community organ which he titled, The Ledger.

The Rev. Mr. Alexander was a better pastor than a publisher so he sold the AFRO-AMERICAN. Mr. Murphy borrowed \$200 from his wife to buy it at auction.

Later the Rev. Mr. Bragg merged the Ledger with the AFRO which for a time was known as The Afro-American Ledger, with Mr. Murphy as publisher and the Rev. Mr. Bragg as editorial writer.

Abandoning the whitewash brush, Mr. Murphy turned all his attention for the next 25 years to printing ink and when he died in 1922 left a successful newspaper property to his sons.

It is strange enough that three men with but a single hobby should in their separate ways found a great newspaper.

It is unusual also that a whitewasher, without formal schooling, should become a canny newspaperman.

Most marvelous of it all is that John H. Murphy was past 50 years old when he took his wife's \$200 and overnight became a newspaper owner.

No path of roses was he to find in the newspaper game. Frequently employees went home on Saturday nights with half their pay and the boss with less, even though the entire payroll then totalled only \$60 a week.

The famed Afro-American newspapers, published in Baltimore, grew out of the printing hobby of three different men, and the determination of John H. Murphy, who borrowed \$200 when he was past 50 years of age to buy a paper and build an institution. This is the first of a series of articles on important Negro newspapers

"Independent in All Things"

Money was to be made in politics, but the AFRO was an independent paper and still is. It was the first weekly to survive without the financial assistance of politics, or the support of fraternities or churches. Its editorial page carried



the slogan—"Independent in all things, neutral in nothing."

John H. stood by his principles, too. Poor though he was, he turned down the Saloon League's offer of \$1,500 for a page of advertising in those early days because he had had an experience with liquor in the Union army that made him hate it.

The AFRO's rise from the small-time weekly, however, dates from 1917 when it threw its job printing equipment out the window and devoted all of its energies to publishing a newspaper.

It had 8,300 circulation then, chiefly

in Maryland. In 13 years (1930) it had grown to 38,377.

Since 1930 the number of copies sold has doubled and now averages 79,952 net paid copies each week, according to the audit of the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

The AFRO-AMERICAN Company publishes the Baltimore AFRO-AMERICAN Tuesday and Friday; the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN and the Philadelphia AFRO-AMERICAN as well as special editions for New York and New England, Maryland, Virginia and the nation-at-large.

The AFRO regards its special territory as the Eastern seaboard, from Maine to North Carolina, with West Virginia added.

In this area which includes the chief Eastern cities, New York, Baltimore, Washington, Philadelphia and Richmond, the AFRO has twice as much circulation as the second paper. Here are the figures:

| | AFRO | SECOND PAPER |
|----------------------|--------|--------------|
| New England | 3,684 | 1,530 |
| Middle Atlantic..... | 21,700 | 18,416 |
| (N. Y.-N. J.-Pa.) | | |
| South Atlantic..... | 48,658 | 15,464 |
| Total | 74,052 | 35,410 |

John H. Murphy, Jr., is circulation chief.

Advertising, 1,700,000 Lines

Because of the intensive coverage of this field the AFRO carried last year 1,700,000 lines of advertising to lead all the weekly papers of the country. This, so far as is known, is an all-time high for weekly newspapers.

Advertising executive is D. Arnett Murphy with Elson Higginbotham as his assistant.

Printing is done in the \$150,000 Baltimore production plant which houses editorial, advertising, circulation and business offices, typesetting machines, engraving plant, mailing rooms, photographer's developing and printing rooms, a memorial library, the gift of the late Bishop W. Sampson Brooks, garage, paper storage rooms, and parking lot in the rear.

A three-story annex for a new \$50,000 Goss printing press was opened for the first time three months ago.

Erected under the supervision of Albert I. Cassell, nationally known architect, the pressroom with its glazed brick walls, 160 tons of concrete and steel

foundations and its insulated ceilings to deaden noise is one of the most modern in the United States.

The independence and the progressive spirit of the AFRO-AMERICAN have attracted to it some of the best editorial minds, advertising and circulation salesmen and mechanics in the country. The majority of its employees, some of whom have been with the paper for twenty years or more, came to the paper while still in their early twenties. This, in large measure, has accounted for the vigor of the paper and for its modern viewpoint.

Entire Personnel Colored

N. B. Carrington is foreman of the pressroom; Carl Beckwith, of the composing room day crew, and John Oliver, night foreman; Philip Taylor heads the engraving department; Ellsworth Coates, the stereotype room; Kenneth Brickhouse, the linotype department.

Managing editor is William I. Gibson and Baltimore city editor William N. Jones.

James H. Murphy is circulation manager and Lula Jones Garrett, society editor.

Ralph Matthews is editor of the Washington AFRO-AMERICAN, Joseph LaCour, advertising manager, and William C. Jones, circulation manager.

John Bogle is manager and circulation chief of the Philadelphia AFRO-AMERICAN, Levi Jolley, editor, and David Sullivan has charge of advertising. Sara Neely is the society editor.

George B. Murphy, Jr., is New York editor.

Under their direction, 118 workers of both sexes are regularly employed. The weekly payroll is in excess of \$2,500 and since 1892 only colored persons have been employed in keeping with orders from the late John H., the boss. He said:

"I believe colored people can be found for any type of work we do now or ever will do. If you can't find experts, then train them yourself. How can our own people ever expect to operate complicated machinery unless they get a chance at it in our own plants?"

The result of following that policy is that the AFRO-AMERICAN is the largest colored newspaper operating its own plant with an all-colored personnel.

Nearly a hundred years ago Willis A. Hodges complained when an article he paid to have inserted in the New York Sun was altered, then buried in the advertising column.

The Sun's editor advised Mr. Hodges that "The Sun shines for all white men and not for colored men, and that if he wished to advocate the cause of his people,

he would have to publish a paper himself for the purpose."

Hodges founded the *Ram's Horn*, one of the first of a line of great New York colored papers, yet despite the flight of a hundred years, if any papers shine for colored people they are their own weeklies.

More Than Money Making

The founders of the AFRO-AMERICAN and their successors were quick to realize that while, like all other newspapers, its primary cause for existence was to make money, one of the main reasons for its existence and continuance was to supply a service which the daily press does not and cannot give, despite the use by some southern dailies of an entire segregated page for news of colored people.

Like the foreign language press and like the various community newspapers that have developed in America, the publishers of the AFRO-AMERICAN saw early the opportunity for interpreting for people having common interests the happenings of the world from their own point of view.

No major sports or theatrical event has taken place without an AFRO reporter to record it. For years, the "Hear Me Talkin' to Ya" sports column of Bill Gibson, now managing editor, was one of the most widely read and frequently quoted columns of its kind. The "Watching the Big Parade," and "Day by Day" columns of Matthews and Jones; "Gad-abouting" with Lula Jones Garrett; "Believe Me" by Malcolm Fulcher; and

"Social Skits" by Smallwood are feature columns of national note.

In the disastrous floods of 1936 and 1937, Levi Jolley, former city editor, and Jones distinguished themselves for their graphic, dramatic accounts of the desolation and acute human suffering and for their photographs of the flooded areas.

AFRO Reporters Always There

From his office in Baltimore, William N. Jones used the trans-Atlantic telephone to interview Josephine Baker in England on her honeymoon.

Whether the news be a student strike, a church convention, a society wedding or a murder trial, it is patent that the AFRO will be there. First newspaper to install a modern wet-plate process-

(Continued on next page)



Above, Kenneth Brickhouse, linotype chief, operates one of the five typesetting machines which run day and night in the AFRO plant

Below, N. B. Carrington, press room foreman, plates the new \$50,000 Goss sextuple press which prints 32 pages in two or three colors

sional engraving plant—a plant which now keeps three workers busy — the AFRO regularly prints more pictures than any other paper. It published the first action photos ever made of Roland Hayes singing, of Midshipman James L. Johnson, at Annapolis, of Benjamin O. Davis and James Fowler, at West Point.

The publication's enterprise and ingenuity have so stimulated readers that many of them voluntarily submit exclusive news tips which frequently develop into front-page stories. Each day's mail brings hundreds of news items which are carefully culled by the editors and put into acceptable news form by the copy desk.

Outside of Baltimore, the major news centers of the Atlantic seaboard are Philadelphia, Washington and New York. With this in mind, the paper operates branch offices in these cities, manned with complete forces of reporters, photographers, advertising solicitors and circulation men.

In other major news centers throughout the nation and Europe, are specially-trained AFRO correspondents who keep their eyes and ears open for any happening worth recording.

In addition to the regular mail service, the home office is equipped with a teletype over which correspondents transmit up-to-the-minute news and features. A few years ago, the journal sent its crack reporter and columnist, Ralph Matthews, on a 30-day "Around the United States" tour which uncovered many interesting news facts which had hitherto been unpublished.

Matthews covered the Tuskegee murders and the recent Duck Hill, Mississippi, lynchings. He went to the Virgin Islands with the Tydings Commission. He also attended the coronation of George VI in London and made a side excursion to write up the Paris night clubs. He was one of the few reporters to interview Haile Selassie, deposed Emperor of Ethiopia.

When the Moton Commission went to Haiti in 1931, Carl Murphy, AFRO editor, went along and gave the world the only full detailed report of that history-making event.



Philip Taylor, engraving foreman, focuses camera on a proof

Foreign News Coverage

When hell broke loose at Scottsboro, Ala., the AFRO's William N. Jones was on hand to report it. At the most strategic moment in recent Liberian history, Jones was invited to that country as the guest of President Barclay to get firsthand information. His reporting has taken him to Russia, Paris, London and to the League of Nations at Geneva. In

1936 he covered the Olympic games at Berlin.

A special native correspondent brought AFRO readers the true picture of what was going on during the recent Ethiopian-Italian war, and today Langston Hughes, internationally famed poet and author, is sending the paper exclusive accounts of the bitter revolution now raging in Spain.

(Continued on page 50)



Champion clean block. Above, what happened to 114 blocks in Baltimore in the AFRO's third annual clean-block campaign last summer. Eleven thousand householders took part. Below, Women crowd AFRO cooking schools in Baltimore, Philadelphia and Washington

Books by Negro Authors in 1937

Paragraph Reviews for the Guidance of CRISIS Readers

THE following list of books and pamphlets (like the list which appeared in *THE CRISIS* for February, 1937) is necessarily incomplete, but notices every book and pamphlet in English written by a Negro and published in the year 1937 that has come to the attention of the compiler. It also includes a few works published in 1936 which reached him too late to be included in last year's list. No comments are made on books reviewed in *THE CRISIS* (other than to indicate the place where such review may be found) or on books which the compiler has not read. For lack of space, all the pamphlets in Section II are also listed without comment.

Although books written in foreign languages by colored authors do not come within the scope of this review, attention should be called to the fact that in 1937, as in former years, a considerable number of such works have appeared, conspicuous among which are the two volumes of brilliant and poignant poetry by Cuba's foremost lyric poet, Nicholas Guillen, *Cantos para soldados y sones para turistas* (Mexico, D.F., Editorial "Masas," 1937. 84 pp. 2 pesos.) and *Espana Poema en cuatro angustias y una esperanza*. (Valencia, Nueva Coleccion "Heroe," 1937. 39 pp.)

I

American Stuff. An anthology of prose and verse by members of the Federal Writers' Project. New York, Viking Press, 1937. 301 pp. \$2.00.

Reviewed in *THE CRISIS* for December, 1937, at page 345.

Armstrong, Louis. *Swing That Music*. New York, Longmans Green, 1936. 136 pp. of text plus music. \$2.50.

An account largely autobiographical, of swing music by one of its ablest exponents, to which is appended ten illustrative scores by some of the foremost swing performers in America.

Atlanta University French Series. Edited by Mercer Cook and Guichard Parris. Atlanta, 1936 (for 1937) 3 vols. \$.25 each. *Les singes de Dieu et les hommes du Diable* by Alex. Privat d'Anglemont *Ourika* by Madame de Duras *Zimbo* by Saint Lambert

The first three (of six) reprints edited with forewords, notes and vocabularies designed for second year students. The texts deal with Negro subjects and the first text is by a colored writer. The brief forewords are clear and useful and the notes and vocabularies are adequate.

This review of books by Negroes issued during 1937 is by Arthur B. Spingarn, chairman of the national legal committee of the N.A.A.C.P., who, for many years has been collecting books by Negro authors. The first review by Mr. Spingarn published in the February, 1937, issue, proved to be a popular one and THE CRISIS hopes to be able to present a similar piece next year

Atkins, Thomas. *The Eagle*. St. Louis, St. Louis *Argus*, 1936. 87 pp.
A volume of mediocre verse.

Bontemps, Arna. *Sad Faced Boy*. Boston, Houghton Mifflin, 1937. 119 pp. \$2.00.
Reviewed in *THE CRISIS* for November, 1937, at page 347.

Brawley, Benjamin. *The Negro Genius*. New York, Dodd Mead, 1937. 336 pp. \$2.50.
Reviewed in *THE CRISIS* for July, 1937, at page 219.

Brawley, Benjamin. *Negro Builders and Heroes*. Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 1937. 315 pp. \$2.50.

This attempt to tell the story of Negro achievement in the United States to the present time through the lives of individuals was singled out for a long, intemperate and caustic attack in *The Nation* last October and was equally warmly defended in *THE CRISIS* for December. Although the book is fuller than its innumerable predecessors it does not measure up to the methods of modern scholarship and is not without serious omissions and inaccuracies. It is to be regretted that so distinguished an author should have permitted his desire to publish three books within one year to so lower his standards.

Bunche, Ralph J. *A World View of Race*. Bronze Booklet No. 4. Washington, Associates in Negro Folk Education, 1936 (for 1937) 98 pp. \$.25.

A well written and persuasive attempt to interpret the problem of race in terms of a class problem which will be convincing to those who believe that so complex a problem can have so simplified a solution.

Crawford, George W. *The Talladega Manual of vocational guidance*. Talladega, Talladega College (1937) 146 pp.

An excellent manual, compiled by one of the leading lawyers of the race, for use in Negro liberal art colleges setting forth the principles and collecting the material by which students may make intelligent preparations and choice of occupations.

Davis, Frank Marshall. *I Am the American Negro*. Chicago, Black Cat Press, 1937. 69 pp. \$1.50.

Reviewed in *THE CRISIS* for May, 1937, at page 158.

Dett, Robert Nathaniel. *The Ordering of Moses*. Biblical folk scene for soli,

chorus and orchestra. New York, J. Fischer & Bros. (1937) 123 pp. \$1.25.

This beautiful and moving oratorio, the text based on scripture and folk lore, compiled and set to music by one of the most gifted contemporary composers, was selected by Eugene Goossens as the representative American work for 1937 and was performed under his direction at the Cincinnati Music Festival in May with great acclaim. Additional performances in other cities since then have been enthusiastically applauded.

Doyle, Bertram W. *The Etiquette of Race Relations in the South*. A study in social control. Chicago, University of Chicago Press (1937). 249 pp. \$2.50.

A scholarly attempt to study race relations primarily in terms of personal relations, conceiving etiquette as a form of control more basic than law or government. If all the author's conclusions cannot be subscribed to the book presents a fresh and stimulating approach to the subject.

Eppse, Merl R. *A Guide to the Study of the Negro in American History*. Nashville, National Education Publishing Co., 1937. 115 pp. \$2.00.

Fuller, Thomas O. *Bridging the Racial Chasms*. Memphis, The author (1937) 73 pp. \$1.15.

A brief survey of interracial attitudes and relations.

Fuller, Thomas O. *History of the Negro Baptists of Tennessee*. Memphis, The author (1936). 346 pp. \$2.00.

The first history to be written on this subject.

Grigsby, Snow F. *White Hypocrisy and Black Lethargy*. Detroit, The author, 1937. 58 pp. \$1.00.

An account of the injustices and discriminations suffered by Negroes in Detroit from its public officials and from its public institutions.

Herndon, Angelo. *Let Me Live*. New York, Random House (1937). 409 pp. \$2.50.

Reviewed in *THE CRISIS* for July, 1937, at page 219.

Hill, Julius C. *A Song of Magnolia*. Boston, Meador Publishing Co., 1937. 88 pp. \$1.50.

The author's third volume of verse.

Huggins, Willis & Jackson, John G. *An Introduction to African Civilizations*. New York, Avon House, 1937. 224 pp. \$2.50.

Hurston, Zora Neale. *Their Eyes Were Watching God*. Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott (1937). 286 pp. \$2.00.

In this, her third book, Miss Hurston again displays her gift of humor and dialogue and her extraordinary ability to deal with folk lore. It is an engrossing folk story told by an author with an authentic talent.

James, C. L. R. *Minty Alley*. London, Secker & Warburg, 1936. 320 pp. 7 sh. 6 d.

A charming novel of west Indian middle-class urban life. The characters are alive,

(Continued on next page)

the dialogue racy and the action takes place in a locale definitely realized.

James, C. L. R. Toussaint L'Ouverture. Act II, Scene I. in *Life and Letters Today*. London, 1936. pp. 7 to 18. 2 sh. 6 d.

A scene from a moving and imaginative prose play performed by The State Society at Westminster Theatre, London.

James C. L. R. *World Revolution 1917-1936*. London, Secker & Warburg (1937). 429 pp. 15 sh.

A survey of the central European revolutions of 1918-20, the German crisis of 1923, the Chinese revolution of 1925-27, the rise of Hitler, the Spanish and French situations and the rise and fall of the Communist International. A very able exposition from the Trotskyian viewpoint.

Johnson, J. Rosamond. *Rolling Along in Song*. New York, Viking Press, 1937. 224 pp. \$3.50.

A chronological survey of American Negro music with 87 arrangements, including ring shouts, work songs, plantation ballads, chain gang, minstrel songs, street cries, and blues, admirably supplementing the two standard volumes of American Negro Spirituals collected by James Weldon Johnson and the author.

Lee, George W. *River George*. New York, Macaulay Co. (1937). 275 pp. \$2.00.

A novel based on the life of a semi-legendary "bad man." It is a readable book, but it lacks the vitality and reality that Mr. Lee put in his 20 page account of this character in his earlier book, "Beale Street."

Locke, Alain. *The Negro and His Music*. Bronze Booklet No. 2. Washington, Associates in Negro Folk Education, 1936 (for 1937) 142 pp. \$25. *Negro Art: Past and Present*. Bronze Booklet No. 3. 122 pp. \$25.

These two volumes treat of subjects on which there exists too little authoritative information. While they are not as well organized, inclusive or accurate as might be wished, they contain interesting material and their low price warrants their extensive circulation.

Love, Rose Leary. *Nebraska and His Granny*. Tuskegee, Tuskegee Institute Press, 1936. 69 pp.

Poems and stories about a little brown boy designed for young children. Simply and pleasantly written.

McKay, Claude. *A Long Way From Home*. New York, Lee Furman (1937). 354 pp. \$3.00.

Mr. McKay's autobiographical account of his experiences and impressions as a black poet in a white world is written with picturesque grace. It is sometimes pretty, sometimes engrossing, but always entertaining. He tells us of the host of the great and near great he has met and gives us glimpses of his life in America and Europe; those in Russia are particularly revealing.

McKinney, T. T. *All White America*. Boston, Meador Publishing Co., 1937. 214 pp. \$2.00.

Reviewed in *THE CRISIS* for May, 1937, at page 156.

Perham, Margery, Editor. *Ten Africans*. London, Faber & Faber (1937). 356 pp. 15 sh.

The editor (white) of this valuable book has collected the life stories of ten Africans exactly as told by themselves; six are re-

corded and translated by others and four are written by their authors. They came from widely different parts of Africa and represent widely different degrees of civilization. Besides being important human documents they throw much light on the whole native situation.

Reid, Ira DeA. *Adult Education Among Negroes*. Bronze Booklet No. 1. Washington, Associates in Negro Folk Education, 1936 (for 1937). 73 pp. \$25.

A clear and comprehensive account of the subject by the professor of sociology at Atlanta University, giving a survey of the little that has been done and indicating some programs for the future.

Rivers, W. Napoleon & Matheus, John F. Dumas' *George*. Washington, Associated Publishers (1936) 233 pp. \$1.35.

Designed as an intermediate French reader, it has been well edited with introduction, full notes, and a complete vocabulary.

Scarlett, George C. *Laws Against Liberty*. New York. The author (1937) 135 pp. \$1.25 in paper; \$1.50 in cloth.

More eloquent than scholarly.

Scott's *Blue Book*, 1937. Chicago, Scott's Business & Directory Service (1937) 220 pp. \$50.

A business and service directory of Chicago's colored citizens and of their activities.

Schomburg, Arthur A. *Foreword to Rowland E. Robinson's Out of Bondage and Other Stories*. Rutland, Charles E. Tuttle Co., 1936. 255 pp. \$2.50.

Mr. Schomburg, in his foreword to this reprint of stories of abolition activities in Vermont, throws an interesting light on the anti-slavery movement in that state.

Still, William Grant. *Twelve Negro Spirituals*. Vol. 1. New York, Handy Bros. Music Co., (1937). 61 pp. \$1.25.

Contains six spirituals by one of the ablest composers of the younger generation, together with six stories depicting Negro life at the time these spirituals were inspired and written by Ruby Berkeley Goodwin.

Styles, Fitzhugh Lee. *Negroes and the Law*. Boston, Christopher Publishing Co., (1937) 320 pp. \$3.50.

There are few books so urgently needed by Negroes as a competent one on the subject essayed by Mr. Styles. Unfortunately, his book in no ways satisfies that need either for the lawyer or the layman.

Waters, Edward Turpin. *These Low Grounds*. New York, Harpers, 1937. 344 pp. \$2.50.

Review in *The Crisis* for December, 1937 at page 379.

Washington City and Capitol. Washington, Government Printing Office (1937) 1140 pp. \$3.00.

This volume is one of the American Guide Series undertaken by the Federal Writers' Project of WPA. It contains a valuable contribution by Sterling A. Brown on The Negro in Washington. (pp. 68 to 90).

Who's Who in Colored America. Fourth Edition, 1933-1937. Brooklyn. 600 pp. \$7.50.

Williams, Frances Harriet. *The Business Girl Looks at the Negro World*. New York, Womans Press, 1937. 55 pp.

Work, Monroe N. *Negro Year Book*. An annual encyclopedia of the Negro 1937-1938. Tuskegee, Negro Year Book Publishing Co., (1937) 575 pp. \$2.00.

This "annual" encyclopedia (the 9th edition in a quarter of a century) despite its title records events to the end of 1936. Because it has no rivals it is still an indispensable book but the work itself indicates the need for a modern, scholarly, accurate and inclusive work covering the subject.

Wormley, Beatrice F. & Carter, Charles F. *An Anthology of Negro Poetry by Negroes and Others*. n.p.n.d. 141 pp. \$35.

This anthology published under the auspices of the WPA of New Jersey contains interesting material at a low cost, but it leans too heavily on the work of its predecessors, particularly on that of James Weldon Johnson's *Book of American Negro Poetry*, which the editors did not have the grace to include in the appended bibliography.

Yancy, J. W. *The Negro Blue Book of Washington County, Texas*. n.p.n.d. (1937).

A creditable attempt to portray the life and achievements of the Negroes in one county in Texas.

II

Among the other pamphlets issued during this period the following may be noted:

"Aldebran". The name "Negro." Los Angeles.

Alexis, Lucien V. *Simple formulae for measuring atoms, their speed and the speed of light*. New Orleans.

Blakeley, Al Ethelred. *Poetic facts and philosophy*. New York.

Bond, Horace Mann. *A statistical study of the State and Federal appropriations to institutions offering higher education in 17 southern states by race*. Chicago.

Cheeks, Eugene Francis. *Modern proverbs*. Cleveland.

(Continued on page 50)

WHITE HYPOCRISY AND BLACK LETHARGY

By
SNOW F. GRIGSBY

This book reveals the inside story of how Negroes are cheated out of millions annually by a lack of proper representation in Municipal, County and State Government paid out of Public Funds.

Are you getting the proper share of jobs in your State? If not, secure a copy of "WHITE HYPOCRISY and BLACK LETHARGY" and see how it is done.

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3762 Seyburn Avenue
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Editorials

They Are Silent on The Main Point

AS this is written, the discussion in the United States senate on the Gavagan-Wagner-Van Nuys anti-lynching bill is raging, but amid all the shouting and arm-waving and citing of endless statistics, the opponents of this bill are still silent on the major question involved: What have the states done to punish the crime of lynching?

The statesmen from below the Mason-Dixon line have not dealt with this question because there is only one answer to it: nothing.

Instead, they have gone off on tangents, preached sectionalism, re-fought the Civil war, revived the Reconstruction Era, prattled about gang killings and race riots, lauded (and defamed) Negroes and Negro leadership in the South and attacked Negroes in the North, dragged out the bloody shirt of race and rape, ranted about states' rights, misquoted the Constitution, yelled their old war cry against intermarriage (but not against inter-mixture), cast disparaging remarks at political maneuvers,—but they have not answered the question.

It is impossible to take up here an analysis of the thousands of words that have been shot into the air by the filibustering southern senators. That is both unnecessary and unintelligent, for they have said little which commands the dignity of rebuttal. The point which has been stressed by all of them, however, is that lynching has decreased from more than 200 a year to "only eight" in 1937. They profess to see in this decrease (although they are unable to show it through facts) that the individual states have attacked the problem and brought about this decrease.

Nothing is further from the truth. When lynchings were more than 200 a year the states did nothing to check them or to punish lynchers. In 1937, when the total was "only eight" the states did precisely the same thing—nothing. After a double lynching in Tallahassee, Fla., July 20, 1937, where the victims were seized by the mob only a few blocks from the state capitol, Governor Fred P. Cone declared, "It looks like a lot of carelessness here by somebody." After a lynching in Abbeyville, Ala., February 2, it was admitted by the attorney general of the state that an innocent man had been lynched—with the knowledge of the sheriff and without resistance on the latter's part.

The brutal torture of the double blow torch lynching at Duck Hill, Miss., April 13 has produced no state action whatsoever, as predicted editorially at the time by the *Indianola, Miss., Sunflower Tocsin*. The third lynching in Florida during the year caused scarcely a ripple; a lynching in Mt. Vernon, Ga., September 3, was not even noticed by the state and county officials; and the lynching of a man suspected of murder in Covington, Tenn., resulted only in the announcement of the grand jury that it could not establish the identity of the six members of the mob.

It must be noted that all the 1937 victims were taken from the custody of officers of the law, a circumstance which all the passionate speeches of the Dixie die-hards cannot erase. So that even if we confine the debate to the "only eight" lynchings of 1937, the states will stand convicted of non-activity against mobs.

As THE CRISIS predicted some months ago, the discussion in the Senate is concerned less with the anti-lynching bill than with the—

Status of the Negro

GR^{EAT} alarms have been raised over the "threat to American institutions" alleged to be imminent if the federal anti-lynching bill passes.

Senator William E. Borah of Idaho, who has broken his record of inconsistency by maintaining almost unbroken opposition to the aims and aspirations of Negro citizens, professes to see a wrecking of the doctrine of states rights if the bill passes. Mr. Borah saw no such wrecking of the other federal legislation which has invaded steadily the rights of the states, but in this matter Negroes are involved, so he roars his opposition.

But it was Senator Pat Harrison, from the Magnolia state of Mississippi (also the state with the most lynchings in the record) who tore aside the veil of pretense at statesmanship and revealed the campaign of the opponents of this bill for what it is, namely, a campaign to keep the Negro forever less than a citizen. Mr. Harrison does not want the Negro to have the ballot, nor to be free of irksome, humiliating restrictions, or to get full value for his dollar when seeking an education or riding the railroads and other public carriers. So help him, God, the senator most of all does not want anything done which may lead to lawful intermarriage and so abolish the present convenient system of concubinage.

When the senators say the South should be left to "solve the race problem" they mean they want no interference with their system of keeping the Negro half a citizen. They do not want the Federal government to apprise the Negro, by any action on its part, that he has any rights grounded in the Constitution or the Federal statutes; they want him continued as a dependent upon their interpretation of his rights.

This is familiar philosophy from the Old South. Borah more than once has joined in espousing it, all the while posing as a constitutionalist, and a Socrates on the democratic process. As a result of this debate a question intrudes even more insistently than it has heretofore: How long will our democracy be able to stand if we blink at the abrogation of it in respect to the rights of a great minority group?

For if the rights of black citizens may be abrogated with impunity, aye, even with the consent of the Senate, then the rights of labor, of religious minorities, and of other groups also may be set aside at the behest of prejudice, ignorance, or greed.

It takes courage and honesty to make democracy work. It requires a kind of fidelity to principle unnecessary in other types of government. Necessarily we progress slowly toward the democratic ideal, for mankind is frail and subject always to error. But there are times, ever so often, when a clear choice is indicated between fundamental principles and cheap compromise.

The fight in Washington is far more momentous than a fight for the enactment of an anti-lynching bill. For Negroes the prize is an additional weapon against the ever-present terror of mob violence, and another step forward to the status of full citizenship. But for America the issue—though she may not realize it now—is of far-reaching significance in these swiftly changing times: is there any moral integrity in the world's foremost democracy?

A Valuable Work

SINCE the inauguration of the Federal Writers Project of the WPA, information of considerable value to America has been uncovered and incorporated in book form. The completed project of the American Guide, containing factual information on every section of our country, will be well worth the whole project.

There is talk of curtailing the funds for this project. Such a step would be a tragedy. If anything, the appropriation should be increased.

The AFRO

(Continued from page 46)

Rayford Logan and Ralph Matthews covered revolutions in Cuba and the Ollie Stewart series on a tour of the Caribbean Sea was one of the high spots in the 1937 AFRO.

Community Activities

Each year since 1930 the advertising department has sponsored annual cooking schools in Baltimore and Washington. Large halls are engaged for three nights and advertisers co-operate in displaying their products in attractive booths around the hall. A nationally-known cooking expert lectures to thousands of women and baskets of groceries and prizes are given away nightly.

Another AFRO activity which has developed into an institution is its Clean Block Campaign, conducted each year under the supervision of Miss Frances L. Murphy, Junior Page editor. Last summer in Baltimore 11,000 householders participated and several thousand more took part in Washington and Philadelphia.

Prizes were offered for the cleanest block, which meant that woodwork was painted and flowers set out in window boxes or in front yards. Benches or chairs were uniformly painted in each block and back alleys were kept clear of trash with containers furnished by the block organization. All of this work was done by children from 8 to 18 years old.

Politics Really Independent

"Independent in all things and neutral in nothing," the AFRO's early motto has been added to in recent years. By its side may be seen also this—"Champion of the Public Welfare and the Square Deal."

Independence isn't merely a word. It is a principle of AFRO action. This newspaper has campaigned with McKinley, bull-moosed with Teddy Roosevelt, expounded the cause of the Progressives and LaFollette, and advocated the election of Al Smith and Franklin Roosevelt.

Its first editorial for Al Smith created a sensation. It was the first Eastern paper to come out solidly for a Democratic president in a quarter of a century.

White Maryland opened its eyes when the AFRO-AMERICAN in 1919 crusaded for the election of W. Ashbie Hawkins, a colored lawyer, for U. S. Senate. He polled but 6,000 votes and was robbed of hundreds of additional votes.

From that day, no Republican machine has been able to carry the colored voters in its vest pocket and, more important



SPURLING CLARK

Mr. Clark is the prescription clerk in the Methodist Hospital pharmacy in Indianapolis, Ind. He is a recent graduate of the Indianapolis College of Pharmacy and worked his way up in the hospital from stock clerk

still, awakening civic organizations have put 50,000 registered voters on Baltimore books alone—no estimate, no guess work, they're colored and they vote independently.

The biggest asset to any newspaper in the past quarter century has been the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

In earlier years, weeklies like the AFRO campaigned vainly against lynching, segregation, disfranchisement, unequal teachers' salaries and insulting epithets in the white press.

Then along came the N.A.A.C.P. with two aides:—first a technic that offered practical means of resorting to the courts and secondly, a national organization which enabled it to swing the weekly press of the entire country behind its program.

If we vote today, live in any part of the city we choose, have no color bar in job or school and are reasonably safe from mobbings and peonage, it is because the association and the press have formed a working combination to make citizenship real to colored people.

Books by Negroes

(Continued from page 48)

Cobb, William Montague. *The Ossa Supernalia in White and American Negroes*. Cambridge, England.

Davis, John W. *Problems in the Collegiate Education of Negroes*, Institute, W. Va.

Greene, Harry W. *Negro Leaders*. Institute, W. Va.

Granger, Lester B. & Hill, T. Arnold. *Occupational Opportunities for Negroes*. New York.

Grimke, Francis J. *Quadrennial Message*. Washington.

Handy, W. C. *Negro Authors and Composers of the U. S.* New York.

Herndon, Angelo. *The Scottsboro Boys Freed*. New York.

Hughes, Langston. *Deux Poems Par F. G. Lorca and Langston Hughes*. Paris.

Hill, T. Arnold. *They Crushed the Color Line*. New York.

Porter, Dorothy. *The Organized Educational Activities of Negro Literary Societies, 1828-1846*. Washington.

Proceedings of the Association of Colored and Secondary Schools for Negroes. Concord, N. C.

Proceedings of Third Annual Convention Southern Tenant Farmers Union. Muskogee.

Report of the National Conference on the Problems of Negro Youth. Washington.

Roberts, W. Adolphe. *Self Government for Jamaica*. New York.

Ross, Hillard Franklin. *The Election of 1936*. New York.

Thomas, Charles Cyrus. *Sweet Land of Liberty*. Poems. Dallas.

Wilkerson, Dorey A. *Federal Aid to Education*. Chicago.

Work, Monroe N. *Problems of Adjustment of Race and Class in the South*.

Finality

By EDWARD A. RICHARDS

The cup is broken now from which we both
Have drunk gallons of wine. So has our love
Long met the same black faith. How dull I feel
To walk this road alone whereon our feet
Have tapped and kicked loose pebbles here and there.
O fair beloved of another heart;
I miss a kiss, an arm that locks in mine,
Soft fingers that may rake my grassy hair.
But I prefer to walk alone and pine
O'er all the joyous moments we have spent.
O yes, I really do prefer to walk. . . .
Be cold or sad until someday maybe
Blue god of love will send someone to me—
Someone who'll ne'er some other day depart.

Protests against inadequate school facilities in Harlem bore fruit. Two new schools costing respectively \$2,370,000 and \$935,000, are being constructed in the heart of the congested area. Two other new schools in the area are nearing completion.

From the Press of the Nation

Editorial of the Month

Stand Up and Fight

Norfolk, Va., *Journal and Guide*

THERE can hardly be found a more tragic spectacle than that of an oppressed people migrating to unknown and unexplored communities in search of surcease from oppression and exploitation.

The weak has no other alternative but to flee from the wrath of the strong, particularly when inspired by their own leaders weary of fight and martyrdom. The Jews are still on the march—fleeing from persecution in Nazi Germany, Poland and the Central European States. Thousands of Ethiopians are crossing the border of their native country into British territory, fleeing from the savagery of Italian civilization. American Negroes, whose migrations from the Southern States to the industrial regions of the North is economic history, are now fleeing from the prejudices and class consciousness of the big cities to seek a haven back home, or in rural sections.

If flight were sufficient unto itself in the solution of vexing socio-economic problems, oppressed racial minorities should have reached Utopia long ago. The social and economic history of migrant peoples reveals that they are greatly weakened mentally and beaten spiritually in the process of flights from "old Egypts" into so-called new "promised lands"; that they more often found strength and courage to endure oppression, and evolve notable triumphs in spite of it, whenever they stood their ground and fought back the charging lances of hate.

The apostles of flight are prone to misjudge the psychosis of the oppressors. The battle between oppressor and oppressed is invariably lost to the latter in the trenches of strategy and methods of attack rather than in the valley of proscription.

Migrations are inspired by a great human urge, basically economic. Wherever the migrants camp, they inspire the same strife and clash of ambitions as that they left behind. The Negro's struggle with industry and labor and unionism for justice in the North is dictated largely by his status as an economic competitor; so, too, is the clash between Arab and Jew in Palestine. The oppressed can stand up and fight and win, if only they find a leadership profound in strategy rather than weak in compromise.

Governor Harry W. Nice of Maryland has announced that he would initiate the necessary steps as soon as the legislature meets to repeal the discriminatory laws which are responsible for the differential in the salaries paid white and Negro teachers in that state.

This is the sensible solution of a problem arising out of a senseless discrimination based solely on race and color. Prolonged litigation in the courts, which will eventually serve to sustain the position taken by the Maryland governor, is not only futile, but foolish.

Governor Nice has shown courage in making the decision to array himself on the side of elementary justice. Such public servants are deserving of commendation. The N.A.A.C.P. is also deserving of commendation for joining the issue and making the decision necessary. This is progress. Perhaps it is a forlorn hope, but nonetheless one

devoutly to be wished, that Virginia will follow the example set by her sister state and thereby avoid expensive, unnecessary and ill-will breeding litigation in order to blot out an all too apparent injustice to the Negro educators of the Old Dominion.—Richmond, Va., *Planet*.

The houses which will be elected under the direction of the Philadelphia Housing Authority will use union labor, according to a statement made by Dr. W. Harry Barnes, a member of the Authority. . . .

The general practice in the building trades in Philadelphia has been not to employ skilled colored workers. Colored brick masons, plumbers, steam fitters and carpenters have been unable to secure work on most building projects which used union labor.

If this same policy is to be followed on the new housing projects, colored skilled workers will get little, if any, employment. One of two things must be done. (1) The building trade unions must admit colored skilled workers and permit them to work at their trades on these buildings or (2) The law or plan to use only union labor must be changed so as to give qualified skilled workers, who have been barred by the unions, an opportunity to work. . . . —Philadelphia, Pa., *Tribune*.

The American League for Peace and Democracy has several civil rights suits against Pittsburgh hotels for refusing accommodations to some of our delegates to the recent People's Congress meeting in that city. GOOD—Cleveland, O., *Gazette*.

The address of President Franklin D. Roosevelt last Monday was a very clear and concise statement of what he wants done. The ranting of some of his cabinet and friends of his administration had led us to the belief that his message would be a rip-snorting, fire-eating one on the Teddy order; but he tempered his speech, took high social and civic ground and the Congress will do well to listen to his words. . . . —*Star of Zion*, Charlotte, N. C.

Italy's prizes for the women bearing the greatest number of babies since April 15, 1926, were awarded December 21. A butcher's wife won first prize, for ten healthy children. A huckster's wife had 17, fourteen living, but a few were born before 1926. Ninety-five mothers, all prize winners, had a total of 738 children. The "high-brows" and society folks, made a very poor showing. Most of their offspring were, "brain children," probably.—Cincinnati, O., *Union*.

To the country-at-large, and especially to border and southern states, the *Afro-American* calls attention to Maryland's governor, Harry W. Nice. . . .

Last week, by instructing his budget director to include \$500,000 in the legislative program for the equalization of white and colored teachers' salaries in the state's rural schools, he selected a psychological moment to throw his full weight into the fight that colored citizens have been making to wipe out the disgrace that discriminating educational authorities have imposed for years. . . . —Baltimore, Md., *Afro-American*.

Cocoa War on the Gold Coast

By George Padmore

TROUBLE has broken out on the Gold Coast. An agrarian strike has been declared. Thousands of cocoa farmers, incensed by the attempt on the part of the British monopoly trading companies and merchants to obtain their cocoa below its real value, are holding up their crops. Motor transport workers and dockers are refusing to handle the goods of foreign firms, while a nationwide boycott of British commodities has been proclaimed. The entire economic life of West Africa's richest colony is at a standstill. Clashes have occurred between the people and the military.

The trouble began during the latter part of October, but the authorities are trying to prevent the news from getting abroad. According to authentic reports reaching London, thousands of native cocoa producers of the Gold Coast and Ashanti have been holding meetings at Suhum, Nsawam, Kibi, Dodowah, and other cocoa-producing districts, for the purpose of discussing ways and means of defending themselves against imperialist oppression.

Great indignation was expressed at these meetings against the unscrupulous methods adopted by the representatives of British finance-capital to exploit the African peasants through an association known as the Pool.

The farmers have agreed that unless the Europeans increase their price they are not going to sell them any cocoa. Strike committees under the leadership of the chiefs—including Sir Ofori Atta, a picturesque ruler well known in England—have been set up to see that there is no blacklegging. Such offenders will be punished by the native tribunals.

The strike, coupled with the boycott, has drawn the entire country into action. The urban population, most of whom are related to the farmers, are also refusing to buy foreign goods. For the first time in the history of Africa, three million people have taken up the challenge against vested interest and have applied the economic strike weapon. This is symptomatic of the New Africa, which is gradually becoming conscious of its strength, and is learning to use Gandhi's well-known technique, the boycott, with effect.

The prolongation of the cocoa impasse is a matter of serious importance to all connected with the West African trade, writes the "Liverpool Daily Post," the most influential journal of that great seaport. The paper reports that according to the latest information received by the Chamber of Commerce

African cocoa growers on the Gold Coast are staging what amounts to a general strike against European capitalists, this writer asserts

from Africa, the result of the trade turnover has been alarming. One large store in Accra, the capital of Gold Coast, where sales normally run to many thousands of pounds per week, is reported to have taken only a few shillings in six days.

How the Pool Operates

In order to understand what is meant by the "Pool" and how it operates, it will first of all be necessary to say a few words about the agrarian question on the Gold Coast. This colony produces more than half the world's supply of cocoa. Unlike other cocoa-producing countries such as Brazil, Fernando Po and San Thomé, cocoa in the Gold Coast is produced by more than 100,000 farmers. The land is owned collectively by the tribes under the trusteeship of paramount chiefs, who, on the advice of their councils, grant allotments to the heads of households, who cultivate the lots with the aid of their families. There are few plantations on the Gold Coast. Now the reason why Gold Coast Africans own more land than their brothers in Kenya and South Africa is due largely to climatic conditions. There are no highlands and temperate regions in West Africa suitable for permanent white settlement, so the imperialists have allowed the Gold Coast blacks to remain on the land, but have compelled them to grow crops such as cocoa, cotton, palm oil and kola nuts, etc., which enable them to reap super-profits on the world market. The Gold Coast produces little or no food crops except plantains. The natives must import rice, flour, potatoes and other staple foodstuffs from abroad. The whole country has been turned into a sort of agrarian hinterland for the benefit of British chocolate and confectionary industries. Because of the mono-crop character of Gold Coast agriculture, the trading companies are able to exploit the people with impunity.

To eliminate competition which might benefit the farmers, the trading syndicates have organized themselves into a buying syndicate, commonly known as the "Pool." At the beginning of every crop season the members of the Pool meet and decide upon the price they in-

tend to pay the natives. And in order to guarantee that each member of the Pool receives the amount of cocoa it requires, quotas are allowed according to the estimated crop.

But this is not the only method by which the farmers are exploited. They and their families are also squeezed as consumers. It must be remembered that most of the members of the Pool are firms which have a monopoly on foodstuffs, clothes and other manufactured commodities. So by paying the farmers as little as possible for their raw materials and charging as high as they can for imported goods, these companies are able to clear tremendous profits annually. This is why the natives have tied up the cocoa strike with the boycott movement, for both are directed against one and the same monopoly-capitalist interests.

Cooperatives Crushed

The farmers have made several attempts to organize cooperatives and market their produce in England directly, but every attempt has been crushed. West African peasants are up against some of the most powerful trusts in the Empire, such as United Africa Company, a subsidiary of that financial octopus, Unilever, which has over £100,000,000 assets! Incidentally it might be of interest to readers to know that Unilever made more than £1,000,000 profit last year.

Peasant cocoa-marketing, unless supported by the Government, is bound to fail; for the cocoa industry is a very complicated business involving brokerage, shipping and insurance companies and manufacturers, most of whom are tied up with one another through interlocking directorates and the banks.

The Gold Coast farmers have made several attempts to solicit the support of the Government to regulate the export of cocoa and thus minimize price fluctuation, but without success. The attitude of the Government is influenced by the question of revenue. Approximately sixty per cent. of the Colony's revenue is derived from an export tax on cocoa. A decrease in production would therefore mean a decrease in revenue. A decrease in revenue might mean reduction in salaries, and this the official bureaucracy dread to contemplate. So it is in the Government's interest to hold the ring by maintaining 'law and order' while the traders squeeze as much out of the natives as possible, and share the swag in the form of export duty.

Natives Barricade Soldiers

In Cape Coast, the headquarters of the nationalist movement, the Aborigines Rights Protection Society, African landlords who rented their shops to European firms, under pressure from the masses, have ordered their tenants to vacate. And to add to an already dangerous situation, the Central Government has announced that they intend to increase taxation in the form of water rates as from January, 1938. While the police were attempting to disperse a mass meeting held at Cape Coast to protest against the new tax at a time when the people are struggling for better economic conditions, fighting broke out between the police and the populace. Several civilians were wounded. The police, were, however, overpowered and the station attacked. According to unconfirmed report, the station was burned to the ground.

Similar disturbances have taken place at Saltpond, where the entire population declared a sympathetic strike with the people in Cape Coast and even set up barricades across the Cape Coast-

Saltpond highway to prevent the soldiers marching upon the Cape. Strikes have also broken out in the mining districts. At Prestea, the largest gold mining area on the Gold Coast, European officials had to do the work of native miners, to prevent the mines from flooding.

Goaded to Action

The situation on the Gold Coast is undoubtedly very serious, despite the attempt on the part of the colonial authorities to prevent the public knowing what is happening in Africa. In some parts of the country farmers have even threatened to burn down their cocoa trees and grow food crops, rather than continue to produce cocoa for European capitalists while they and their families are starving.

The Gold Coast people have repeatedly begged the Colonial Office to send out a Royal Commission, such as the one which recently visited the West Indies, to inquire into their grievances, but their appeals have been disregarded.

A little over a year ago two delegations, one representing the Provisional Council of Chiefs, headed by Sir Ofori Atta, and the other representing the Aborigines Rights Protection Society, came to England and interviewed four Secretaries of State for the Colonies—Lord Swinton, J. H. Thomas, Malcolm MacDonald and W. G. Ormsby-Gore. Each of these ministers refused to listen to the prayers of the natives, on the excuse that they had no real grievances.

The Africans, having exhausted all legitimate and peaceful methods of seeking redress and goaded into desperation, have resorted to direct action. Perhaps the Rip Van Winkles at Whitehall will now wake up.

When the Pitt County (N.C.) school board refused to appropriate money for a bus to transport Negro children to and from school, the parents went into their pockets and came out with \$1,019 in cash for the bus which is now in operation. It enables many more colored children to attend the Ayden (N.C.) high school.



One of the leaders of the strike of Gold Coast natives against the Cocoa barons is reported to be Nana Sir Ofori Atta, shown here in the center, paramount chief of the Akim Abuakwa, Gold Coast, West Africa, Knight of the British Empire, in his ceremonial robes and gold crown, with attendants

Negro Women in Steel

By Mollie V. Lewis

"**P**ERHAPS you are a Negro woman, driven to the worst part of town but paying the same high rent," writes Jenny Elizabeth Johnstone in her challenging little pamphlet *Women in Steel*. "You are strong. There is nothing new in suffering to you," she continues. "Your man is driven even harder than the white workers, but your man gets lower pay—hired the last and fired the first."

I know these women of the steel towns of which Miss Johnstone writes—these women living dreary lives under the domination of powerful and impersonal corporations. I have been one of them. The conditions under which they live, the excessive rents demanded for cramped and inadequate shelter, the uncertainty of employment for their men folk and the disruptive inconvenience of the mill shifts all combine to make life a hard and uneven road for them. It is because of such conditions, faced by the women of every mill worker's family, that the Steel Workers' Organizing Committee, of the Committee for Industrial Organization, has sponsored the formation of women's auxiliaries in the campaign for the unionization of the industry.

Last summer I revisited Gary, that hard and unbeautiful metropolis of steel upon the banks of Lake Michigan. In the mills which line the lake shore, furnaces were going full blast, twenty-four hours a day. Steel was pouring from them in molten streams. Thousands of men of both races and many nationalities, sweaty and grimy, were tending the furnaces and conducting the ore through its processes to the finished product.

Something new had come into the lives of these men. Thousands of them had joined the union. For the first time it was possible for them openly to be union men in the mills of the United States Steel Corporation. For the first time this vast corporation for which they worked had recognized their union and entered into an agreement with it.

Only a few miles distant, however, in Indiana Harbor and South Chicago, Little Steel had taken a bitter stand against the union and against the spirit of the New Deal and had engaged in a costly fight which was climaxed by the Memorial Day Massacre. The strike was now over and the men were returning to work without the recognition which had been negotiated with Big Steel.

Hand in hand with the campaign to organize the mill workers went the drive to bring the women folk of these men into active participation in the labor movement. The agency for organizing the women was the Women's Auxiliary of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers of North America. The objectives of the campaign were to organize the women "to lend aid to the union in all possible ways," to help them to maintain the morale of the steel workers, to educate them in the principles of trade unionism, and to weld them into a force for social betterment.

Bringing Races Together

In the matter of race relations, Gary and the adjacent steel towns are by no means utopian. From time to time bitter racial animosities have flared, not only between Negroes and whites, but also between native citizens and the foreign born. In addition many of the foreign born brought with them to this country nationalistic enmities rooted in Old World conflicts. To induce the women of such diverse groups to join the same organization, even for their own benefit, has been no easy task.

In Gary I talked with Mrs. Mineola Ingersoll who was in charge of the organization of women's auxiliaries in the Chicago-Calumet district. Mrs. Ingersoll is a young southern white woman and a graduate of the University of Alabama. Together we visited the homes of members of the auxiliary of both races and various nationalities.

"Our policy in the auxiliary, as in the union," Mrs. Ingersoll said, "is to organize all regardless of their race, color, creed or nationality. When it comes to exploitation, the mill owners draw no color line. They exploit the native white workers just as they do the Mexican, Polish and Negro workers."

In Indiana Harbor where Inland Steel had forced its workers into a long and bitter strike rather than grant their demand for recognition, a number of Negro women had been drawn into the auxiliary. In Gary, however, Negro women seemed more reluctant to join and the campaign had been less successful among them. Along with the women of other groups, Negro women were represented on the picket lines of the struck plants.

During the strike they cooperated with others behind the lines in the preparation and serving of hot meals to the strikers. They were members of the various committees which sought contributions of money and food to keep the strike going.

Negroes Aided in Strike

In her pamphlet, Miss Johnstone calls attention to "the swiftness with which Negro women have taken the leadership in our chapters. There is not one auxiliary where the staying power of these courageous women has not carried the organization over some critical period, especially in the first days of unseen and unsung organizing drudgery before the body took form. They were undaunted and gave great moral strength with their persistence."

The organizing of white and Negro women in the same units has naturally had its by-product in the field of race relations. While the auxiliaries have by no means eliminated racial barriers in a district where jim crowism flourishes, they have for the first time made it possible for the women of both races to get to know one another on friendly terms.

While the municipal government of Gary continues to keep the children apart in a system of separate schools, their parents are getting together in the union and in the auxiliary. And after school hours, the children meet jointly in a junior lodge under guidance of an instructor. It is noteworthy that the only public eating place in Gary where both races may be freely served is a cooperative restaurant largely patronized by members of the union and auxiliary.

These, it may be true, are of minor importance. But they represent steps toward inter-racial cooperation on a mass basis. When the black and white workers and members of their families are convinced that their basic economic interests are the same, they may be expected to make common cause for the advancement of these interests. Women of both races have, for traditional reasons, been inclined to be more stand-offish than men when it comes to organizing in a common body. The efforts of the auxiliary to bring the women together may ultimately prove to be a significant factor in overcoming racial barriers which still retard the advance of the labor movement in this country.

Along the N.A.A.C.P. Battlefront

New Crusade for Liberty Launched

AS a fitting observance of the 75th anniversary year of the Emancipation Proclamation, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is launching a New Crusade for Liberty whose goal is full citizenship for colored Americans.



The crusade will be launched officially February 1 with the sale of New Crusade buttons throughout the nation under the direction of Mrs. Daisy E. Lampkin, field secretary of the N.A.A.C.P. The buttons commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of Emancipation, 1863-1938, and cite the immediate objectives as the securing of the ballot for all qualified citizens and the securing of a just share of public education for colored children.

The N.A.A.C.P., in a leaflet announcing the campaign, cites the remarkable progress that has been made by colored people in the last 75 years, but states that even so, full freedom has not been won. The association calls for a persistent, relentless campaign to secure real emancipation. The button selling campaign is for the two-fold purpose of spreading news about the New Crusade and for raising funds for the beginning of the broad movement. The buttons sell for 10c each—or as much more as contributors are willing to give.

Mrs. Lampkin, in her capacity as field secretary, has conducted membership campaigns for the association in every part of the United States and she issued an appeal from New York January 15 calling upon all branches, friends, workers, and interested groups and organizations to assist in the sale of these New Crusade buttons just as they did in the sale of anti-lynching buttons in 1937.

The formal announcement of the New Crusade by the N.A.A.C.P. stated:

"Since the Emancipation Proclamation became effective January 1, 1863, colored Americans have made what has been called the greatest progress by any people in the same length of time in the history of the world.

"They were poor, without property, without jobs and without education. Today they are 90% literate. They own more than two billion dollars in property

and they are (normally) more than 80% gainfully employed. A detailed examination of the progress would require a book . . .

Full Freedom Not Won

"But with all this progress, as remarkable as it has been, full freedom has not been won. The rights, privileges and responsibilities of American citizenship are denied to great groups of colored people in every section of our land. Such achievements as have been made have been against tremendous odds.

"In many sections of the country colored people, although fully qualified, are denied the right to vote.

"In many states their children are denied the birthright of every American child—education in the public schools set up and maintained by the tax money of the states. A fair and equitable distribution of the tax funds for education is not made in those states which provide separate schools by law.

"In many places colored people are denied access to certain types of employment solely on account of their color; and in many cases, even when employed, they are forced to accept a lower wage scale than white workers performing identical tasks.

"The sharecropping and tenant farmer system has operated to their disadvantage for such an extended period that now this class of workers constitutes the most poverty stricken group on the American continent and has been called by impartial observers worse than any peasant group in Europe.

"The specter of lynching, spreading terror and intimidation on all sides, still hovers over the land.

"The discrimination and segregation operating against the Negro in the field of public health have accounted for a high percentage of the mortality of the race. Inequalities and segregation in places of public accommodation and on the public carriers have operated to deny colored people their rights as citizens.

New Crusade for Liberty

"With a salute to the remarkable progress which has been made, but with a realization that there are still many tasks to be accomplished, the National Association for the Advancement of Col-

ored People is launching in this 75th anniversary year of the Emancipation a New Crusade for Liberty which shall have for its objectives the attainment of all the rights and privileges of citizens for all the Negroes of the United States.

"To launch this crusade, to secure funds for pushing it, and to make known to great numbers of people the goals which we seek, we are selling a 'New Crusade' button.

"We appeal to all colored Americans and all friends of theirs and of liberty and democracy to assist in the sale of these buttons and to show by the purchase and wearing of them their belief in the cause.

"The struggle for liberty by mankind goes on forever. America has the greatest democracy the world has ever seen. In 1863 our country officially outlawed human slavery and decreed that the former slaves shall be citizens of the republic.

"This new crusade is the purest form of Americanism—to secure for these loyal, industrious and talented dark-skinned Americans the full status of American citizens under the law and the constitution."

Filibuster Continues on Anti-lynch Bill

As this issue of THE CRISIS goes to press, the filibuster against the Gavagan-Wagner-Van Nuys Anti-lynching bill by less than a dozen southern senators is still in progress. The southerners began speaking against the bill January 6 when it was called up and have not ceased their efforts against it.

They were aided on January 7 by a speech of Senator William E. Borah of Idaho who told the Senate that the South was doing very well in handling the Negro problem and that the people of the northern and western states ought not to interfere. Senator Borah, who, heretofore, has argued strictly on the constitutionality of a federal anti-lynching bill, departed from his usual custom and made a speech on the South and the Negro.

Encouraged by the type of speech delivered by Senator Borah, the southern senators then proceeded to fight the Civil War all over again and to revive the reconstruction era and to make all the

arguments of race hatred and color prejudice they could muster.

Senator Pat Harrison of Mississippi said the pressure for an anti-lynching bill by northern Democrats would split the Democratic party, while Senators Ellison D. Smith, of South Carolina, and Allen J. Ellender of Louisiana, declared that white civilization was at stake and the South was depending upon the North to "keep this a white man's country." Senator Ellender spoke for four days against the bill and was still speaking as this was written. He demanded a federal law prohibiting intermarriage between the races.

Other senators who have taken part in the filibuster are: Reynolds, N. C.; McKellar, Tenn.; Miller, Ark.; Carraway, Ark.; Connally, Tex.

A full report on the debate in the Senate will be found in THE CRISIS for March.

Maryland Governor to Equalize Salaries

Governor Harry W. Nice on December 28 announced that he would initiate the necessary steps to equalize the salaries paid to white and Negro teachers in the state. This will mean an increase of \$486,000 in the annual salaries of Negro teachers throughout the state.

Governor Nice stated that a number of distinguished lawyers in Maryland had informed him that the law now on the statute books providing one salary scale for white teachers and a much lower salary scale for Negro teachers was "totally unconstitutional."

At the present time Maryland works its discrimination through a state law which puts salaries for white teachers on a yearly basis but salaries for Negro teachers on a monthly basis. The minimum salary for a white teachers in an elementary school is \$600 per year, but for a Negro teacher \$40 per month. In an eight-month school term the Negro elementary teacher receives \$280 less salary than the white elementary teacher. A white high school teacher receives a minimum salary of \$1,150 per year, while a Negro high school teacher receives \$80 per month, which makes a differential of \$510 against the Negro high school teacher in an eight month term.

The law and the salary scales have been attacked by lawyers of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People acting for teachers in Montgomery county and Calvert county, Maryland. The N.A.A.C.P. legal staff contends that a statute setting up separate salary scales for public school teachers based solely on race violates the fourteenth amendment to the United States constitution.

The case in Montgomery county was argued in the spring of 1937 and terminated by an agreement by the county board of education to adopt a uniform, nondiscriminatory salary scale. This case will result in the Montgomery county Negro teachers receiving a salary increase amounting to \$30,000 annually. Before the case was filed a Negro elementary school principal in Montgomery county received \$612 a year, whereas a white teacher with the same qualifications and experience was receiving \$1175 a year.

The Calvert county case was filed in November, 1937, and settled December 27, 1937, by the county board of education making an agreement to equalize salaries, beginning one-third in August 1938, and full equalization by August, 1939. The delay is due to the necessity of providing additional funds out of the next tax levies. When full equalization is reached, Negro teachers in Calvert county will have their salaries increased over \$16,000.

The N.A.A.C.P. lawyers who have successfully handled these teachers salary cases are Thurgood Marshall and Charles H. Houston of the New York national office, and Edward P. Lovett of Washington, D. C.

Five New Members Elected to Board

At the annual meeting January 3, five new members were elected to the board

of directors of the N.A.A.C.P. They are: Dr. Allen Knight Chalmers of New York city, minister of the Broadway Tabernacle church and chairman of the National Scottsboro Defense Committee; Dr. John H. Johnson of New York city, rector of St. Martin's Episcopal church in Harlem, recent candidate for the New York city council, member of the advisory committee on housing and member of the citizens' committee on home relief problems; Professor Paul Douglas of the University of Chicago; Dr. E. W. Taggart, president of the Birmingham, Ala., branch of the N.A.A.C.P., and Douglas Falconer of Brooklyn, N.Y., director of the Brooklyn bureau of charities.

Members reelected to the board: Senator Arthur Capper, the Reverend William Lloyd Imes, Miss Mary White Ovington, Sidney R. Redmond, Dr. Charles Edward Russell, Judge Charles E. Toney, William Allen White, Miss Frances Williams and Dr. Louis T. Wright.

New vice-presidents elected: Godfrey L. Cabot, Boston, Mass., and Judge Manley O. Hudson of Cambridge, Mass., and The Hague.

J. E. Spingarn of New York was reelected president and Dr. Louis T. Wright, chairman of the board. Miss Mary White Ovington was reelected treasurer.

At the annual meeting, reports on the work for 1937 were heard from members of the executive staff. Secretary



Mrs. Itasca McCall, chairman of the N.A.A.C.P. Christmas Seal campaign in Santa Monica, Calif., is shown here (extreme left) with (left to right) Chief William J. Mohr of the fire department; Mayor E. S. Gillette; Miss Beulah E. Reid, secretary of the Santa Monica branch; and Chief Charles L. Dice, of the police department

Walter White sketched the accomplishments of the year and outlined a program for 1938. A report on legal activities and on the campaign against inequalities in public education was given by Charles H. Houston and Thurgood Marshall. A report on branch work was made by Dean William Pickens, director of branches. Publicity and *The Crisis* were reported on by Roy Wilkins, assistant secretary and editor of *THE CRISIS*. The treasurer's report, read in the absence of Miss Ovington, will be given in exact detail upon the completion of the audit. It will be published as usual in the annual report which will be ready for distribution in April.

Life membership medals were presented to the Afro-American Newspapers, Inc.; Miss Eleanor K. Terrell, of Plainfield, N. J.; and Dr. Louis T. Wright. George B. Murphy, Jr., received the medal for the Afro-American. Another life membership medal for Miss Eleanor Alexander of Cleveland, O., will be presented at the 29th annual conference in Columbus next June. Medals are given life members upon completion of the payment of \$500. The names of the life members also are inscribed upon a bronze plaque in the national office.

Branch News

The December meeting of the executive committee of the **Princeton, N. J.**, branch was held at the home of its president, Dr. D. W. Anthony. New committees were appointed for the year and tentative plans outlined relative to community problems. Activities will be directed toward securing the largest membership in the history of the organization.

The monthly meeting of the **Santa Barbara, Calif.**, branch was held December 2 in the Neighborhood House, Santa Barbara. Officers were elected for 1938.

The **Youngstown, Calif.**, branch, through the youth council, began a job campaign to employ local youth in department of grocery stores during the busy holiday season. Letters were sent to every manager asking him to give deserving and qualified Negroes clerical jobs in their places of business. Floyd Haynes, local and state president of the council, is responsible for this move.

The **Evansville, Ind.**, branch, in cooperation with the American Civil Liberties Union, is supporting the move for a new trial for James Reed Swain, 18, Negro youth sentenced to die for murder of a local groceryman.

The **Santa Monica, Calif.**, branch held its annual drive for funds to aid and carry out its local program. The drive was under the direction of Mrs. Itasca McCall and Mrs. Beulah Reid.

Dean William Pickens, director of branches of the N.A.A.C.P., spoke to a mixed audience at the State Street A.M.E. Zion church December 14, in **Mobile, Ala.**

The **Monroe, La.**, branch entertained William Pickens, director of branches, December 4. Mr. Pickens spoke to a large



E. FREDERIC MORROW

Mr. Morrow has been a member of the staff of the N.A.A.C.P. for several months as co-ordinator of the work of the branches. He will assist in the devising of branch programs and generally supplement the work of the director of branches and the field secretary. He lives in Hackensack, N. J. and attended Bowdoin college

audience at the Tabernacle Baptist church during the afternoon.

The **Pueblo, Colo.**, branch, meeting at the Steelworks Y.M.C.A. December 5, elected a new board of directors for 1938. Those elected to the board were: H. H. Coates, E. E. Hall, Mrs. Ruth Snow, Miss Martha Moore, Ed. Williams, R. C. Martin, A. C. Jones, the Rev. H. A. Rogers, Mrs. Beulah Baker, Mrs. Jessie Jones, the Rev. W. H. Mitchell, T. C. Mercer and Clarence Banks.

The **Tucson, Ariz.**, branch launched its membership drive December 12 with a meeting at the C.M.E. church. The following officers have been elected for 1938: Dr. A. B. Thompson, president; A. D. Durham, vice-president; William James Russell, secretary; Mrs. H. M. McNeil, assistant secretary; and L. D. Johnson, treasurer.

The **Memphis, Tenn.**, branch held its annual business meeting and election of officers at the administration building of Le Moyne college, December 16.

Dean William Pickens was a recent visitor in the city. While here he effected a reorganization of the **Nashville, Tenn.**, branch of the Association.

The **Chattanooga, Tenn.**, branch presented William Pickens to a mixed audience at the Masonic Hall, 411 E. 9th St., Friday, December 17. The subject of his address was "The Common Interest of White and Colored Americans."

The **Houston, Tex.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. participated in the Negro Good Will program over KXYZ on December 4.

The **Freeport, Ill.**, branch had a successful community Christmas tree during the holidays. This branch, under the direction of the Rev. H. Goins, president, and Mrs. Irene Dallas, secretary, have provided a community tree each Christmas for the past three years.

The **Springfield, Ill.**, branch held its annual election of officers December 7 at

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the Urban League. Jerome Singleton and Melvin Gray presented a musical program. The new officers elected were: Simeon B. Osby, Jr., president; John H. Wilson, vice-president; Logan T. Artis, secretary; George Jones, assistant secretary; and Tully Bailey was reelected treasurer.

Members of the executive committee elected were William Ashby, William B. Bruce, C. B. Davis, the Rev. D. E. Johnson, the Rev. R. C. Moore, Robert Taylor, Dr. D. E. Webster and George Wells.

The December meeting of the **Keokuk, Ia.**, branch was held in the Pilgrim Rest Baptist church December 5. Mrs. Myrtle Mills, chairman of the program committee, presented some very capable artists.

The **St. Louis, Mo.**, branch held its first regular meeting under its new administration in the Pine Street Y.M.C.A. December 6.

The **Springfield, Mass.**, branch is planning to celebrate its twentieth anniversary sometime during the year with a reception and ball.

Officers of the **Staten Island, N. Y.**, branch testified before the New York State Temporary Commission on the condition of the urban colored population as to discrimination and segregation on Staten Island.

Dr. Lanus McKnight of Media was the guest speaker at the December meeting of the **Chester, Pa.**, branch. He gave a health talk taking for a topic, "What we usually do for the general everyday complaints."

The **Atlanta, Ga.**, branch held an emancipation celebration at the Big Bethel church, January 1.

The charter for the **Weirton, W. Va.**, branch was officially presented to the or-

ganization Sunday, January 9 at a mass meeting held in the Dunbar high school.

The **White Plains, N. Y.**, branch held its final meeting of the year Sunday, December 18, at the Martine avenue branch of the Y.M.C.A.

The **Cincinnati, Ohio**, branch held an extended membership drive during the month of November. Mrs. Coralie Taylor was general chairman.

Members of the **Rochester, N. Y.**, branch appeared before the city council to protest against a ten-year renewal of the municipal Hospital contract. Dr. Charles T. Lundsford charged that the university's medical school discriminates against colored internes and nurses.

The **Topeka, Kans.**, youth council held its December meeting at the home of Miss Irene King, 712 Western avenue.

The officers of the **Jersey City, N. J.**, branch for 1938 are as follows: president, the Rev. E. P. Dixon; vice-presidents, Dr. James R. Stroud, the Rev. Elias Hardge, and Mrs. Ruth Turner; secretary, Miss Costella Coles; assistant secretary, Miss Harriet Seay; treasurer, Emanuel J. French.

Executive board members are: James Curry, Mrs. Elizabeth B. Thomas, the Rev. W. H. Franklyn, Mrs. Julia Townes, Walter Singleton, the Rev. H. G. Pope, Mrs. Mary Pope, Mrs. Louise Minor, Mrs. Ida E. Brown, Charles Riddick and Mrs. Sara Singleton.

The following program was selected by the branch for the next few months: the senior and junior branches will hold a joint installation tea on Sunday, January 16.

The branch is fighting police brutality in the Charles Alston case. The branch has raised its quota for the Ira Collins case. Plans are being made for Race Relation Service to be held Sunday, February 13, at the Y.W.C.A. The annual membership drive will take place from April 18 to May 1, 1938. The branch went on record as opposing Senator Borah's amendment to the anti-lynching bill.

The **Sacramento, Calif.**, branch held its annual election of officers December 12, 1937. The following officers were elected: Douglass McFarland, president; Winston Bolden, vice-president; Mrs. Netta Weaver, secretary; J. C. Smith, assistant secretary; Mrs. Ella Mills, treasurer. The executive committee is as follows: Robinson Greer, chairman; the Rev. J. T. Muse, the Rev. E. B. Childress, the Rev. D. D. Mattocks, Mrs. Douglass McFarland, Mrs. Fred Butler, Mrs. Charles Hantz, William Brown, F. C. Canson, and R. C. Brewer.

Mrs. Alec Moore, chairman of Sacramento Christmas Seals committee, reported a complete sell-out in the seals.

Dean William Pickens visited the **Baton Rouge, La.**, branch December 9 and made a very inspiring address to a representative group of citizens at St. Mark's church. A formal banquet was given in Mr. Pickens' honor at the Butler's Blue Room by the officers of the branch. Mrs. Johana Carter, chairman of the Christmas Seal sales, reports that all her seals were sold.

Mr. William Pickens, director of N.A.A.C.P. branches, addressed a large and appreciative audience at New Sunlight B.C. December 10 under the auspices of the **Lake Charles, La.**, branch. This branch is making rapid strides and bids fair to become one of the outstanding branches in the South. Miss Golden E. White is

N.A.A.C.P. Youth Council News

Youth Work Outlined at National Meeting

At the annual meeting held at the national office, in New York City, January 3, the rapid growth of the youth division of the association was reported by Miss Juanita E. Jackson, who is directing the youth work of the association.

There are at present 72 chartered youth councils and 30 youth council organization committees in 24 states. There are 15 chartered college chapters and 28 college chapter organization committees in 11 states.

The majority of these youth groups has developed since March, 1936, when the board of directors approved the plan of reorganization of the youth section of the association. In March, 1937, the new constitution for youth councils was approved.

In the past twenty-two months since the beginning of an intensive development of the youth work by the association, there has been developed a youth section of the annual conference. This affords youth members a national outlet whereby they may give expression to their problems and receive guidance specifically designed to meet their needs.

directing the youth division of the branch.

The students of the **Pueblo Junior college** sponsored a program for the **Pueblo, Colo.**, branch, Sunday, January 1, at the Bethlehem Baptist church.

Gov. Kraschel spoke at the emancipation celebration held under the auspices of the **Des Moines, Ia.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. at the Corinthian Baptist church, Ninth and School streets, January 1.

The officers of the **Springfield, Ill.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. were installed at the monthly meeting of the organization January 3 at the Urban League.

The **New Rochelle, N. Y.**, branch celebrated the 73rd anniversary of the issuance of the emancipation proclamation at a special exercise in the A.M.E. Zion church, January 1. The congregations of several of the churches in the neighborhood and representatives of many civic organizations joined in the celebration. The Rev. J. Raymond Henderson, pastor of the Bethesda Baptist church, was the guest speaker. The musical program was presented by the united choirs under the direction of Mrs. Ethel J. Minton.

Officers of the **New Rochelle** branch are: Lee Crawford, president; Bessie L. R. Henrie, secretary. Executive committee members include: Dr. Leon W. Scott, Dr. E. E. Bess, Dr. C. P. McClelland, W. J. Best, Albert Scantleberry, Mrs. Lillian Graves and Mrs. Viola Adams.

The women's auxiliary of the **Morris-**

This has resulted in greatly augmenting the youth attendance at the annual conferences, for there were 343 delegates at the last conference in Detroit, coming from 20 states and 44 cities.

A national youth program has been evolved by the youth members under the guidance of the director of youth work. This program, built around the major objectives of the association, provides for national periodic youth activities observed with local emphasis and dovetailed with local activities, undergirded by a monthly local youth program meeting local needs. Many youth groups have undertaken specific local social projects, such as the successful drive for job opportunities conducted by the Gary, Indiana, youth council.

A Youth Council Section has been added to The Crisis containing news of youth council activities.

From January 1 through November 30, 1937, youth councils and college chapters sent a net total of \$1,591.21 to the national office.

New York Young People Aid Anti-lynch Fight

In an attempt to arouse New York

town, N. J., branch gave its annual Christmas party for 125 children in the Union Baptist church. The children rendered recitations and songs, which were announced by Miss Emma Arnold, assisted by Miss Alma Lewis. Christmas carols were sung, with Mrs. John Early at the organ. Refreshments were served.

The **Petersburg, Va.**, branch of the N.A.A.C.P. will make an intensive drive for members during the month of January and up to the middle of February. The chairman of the membership committee is the Rev. Rhomas A. Robinson and with him will be associated a number of other persons who will endeavor to contact every home and organization.

The **Charleston, W. Va.**, branch presented in a lecture on January 9 at the First Baptist church, Mrs. Maudelle B. Bousfield, who has been principal of the Stephen A. Douglas high school in Chicago since 1913. Prior to her principalship she was dean of colored schools in Chicago.

The third forum of a series sponsored by the **Springfield, Mass.**, branch was held early in January. Dr. J. W. Dunbar was committee chairman in charge of the series. Dean William Pickens will be the guest speaker at the February meeting to be held in the Olivet Community House.

The **Salt Lake, Utah**, branch and allied interracial organizations presented Richard D. Moore, field representative for the Scottsboro Defense Committee, in a lecture at the First Methodist church, January 10.

City to the importance and significance of the current fight in the Senate to pass the Gavagan-Wagner-Van Nuys federal anti-lynching bill and thereby stimulate the sending of a flood of telegrams, letters, and postcards to senators in Washington, the United Youth Committee Against Lynching sponsored a number of activities throughout the city during January.

Members of the committee have been assigned to the various churches to inform the churchgoers of the current events in the senate fight on the bill and to urge the sending of telegrams and letters. Other members are covering the fraternal, civic, social and political organizations at their regular meetings. Still others are participating in street demonstrations, carrying signs, distributing literature, informing the people in the streets who may not have been touched otherwise.

This committee, composed of representatives of religious, civic, social, political and scholastic groups of all races and nationalities, was organized a year ago by Miss Juanita E. Jackson, who is directing the youth work in the Association. Miss Dorothy Height is chairman.

The committee sponsored two mass meetings in February and June of last year, promoted a "No More Lynching Parade," demonstrated through the Times Square section of the city last August, carrying signs, distributing literature and urging movie-goers to see the motion picture "They Won't Forget," and to write their senators. More than \$450 has been raised to date, to aid in the national fight for the passage of the anti-lynching bill.

Demonstration Against Lynching February 11

Preparations are being completed for the Second National Youth Demonstration Against Lynching, Friday, February 11. This will occur during Negro History Week and just before Race Relations Sunday, when the attention of the country will be focused on the race problem.

This year there will be emphasized the basic relationship between the fight against lynching and the struggle for the ballot, for equal job opportunities, and for equality of education opportunities.

If the anti-lynching bill passes the Senate before the date of the demonstration, senators and congressmen who will have helped in the bill's passage will be congratulated at victory mass meetings and public demonstrations in the communities of their constituents. Moreover, it will be emphasized to the public that the fight against lynching does not end with the passage of the bill; that there must be constant and relentless

education of public opinion to prevent lynchings; that increased vigilance is necessary to see that the provisions of the bill are invoked should a lynching occur.

If the bill has not passed by February 11, the demonstration will serve as a focal point for the mobilization of public opinion behind the last strenuous efforts to combat measures used to prevent the passage of the bill.

A one-month educational campaign under the direction of a vigorous committee, utilizing posters, art exhibits, library displays, pamphlets, and leaflets, is preceding the demonstration. A Guide for the Study of Lynching has been prepared by St. Clair Drake, and may be secured from the national office.

Black armbands will be worn as a dramatic sign of mourning for those victims who were lynched last year, or as a demonstration of the determination to wipe out lynching. They are to be put on in the morning of the eleventh and worn throughout the day.

Mass meetings, rallies, conferences, forums, no-more lynching parades will be featured. Local radio broadcasts, as well as a broadcast over a nation-wide radio hookup will be used to reach the public with the message of the demonstration.

The Atlanta, Georgia, youth council is planning a parade, as well as a public meeting at the First Congregational church. James Oliver Slade of Morris Brown college will be the featured speaker at the mass meeting. Those desiring armbands for use during the demonstration may write to the national office, 69 Fifth avenue, New York City.

Brooklyn Studies Housing Problems

The Brooklyn, N.Y., youth council is taking an active part in the better housing program, which is being conducted in New York City. A committee of five has been appointed to make a complete survey of the housing conditions of Negroes.

In connection with the housing survey, the youth council has made two broadcasts over a local Brooklyn station. The president, Leonard Yard, delivered the first two messages, choosing as his topic, "Better Housing for All Men." Miss Virginia E. Anderson, the secretary, was the speaker on the January radio program.

Youngstown Petitions Ohio Senators

The Youngstown, Ohio, youth council secured 1,500 signatures to petitions which were sent to Senator Buckley of Ohio urging him to aid in the passage

of the federal anti-lynching bill now in the Senate.

Clubs and fraternal organizations were canvassed and asked to send telegrams and letters.

Beatrice Avery Bates Heads Cleveland Council

Mrs. Beatrice Avery Bates, the new president of the Cleveland, Ohio, youth council, is planning a vigorous program for 1938. One of the features of their regular membership meetings is a current events period, conducted by Robert E. Williams. During the time allowed, the discussion leader presents to the group outstanding news events of the past week, especially those pertaining to the problems of the Negro, both locally and nationally. The items in the N.A.A. C.P. news releases are also discussed, and other members are invited to present interesting bits they have read or heard.

At the last meeting, postal cards were sent by youth members to Ohio senators, urging them to use every effort to bring to a vote the anti-lynching bill now in the Senate. Cards were sold at the meeting and addressed there by the members.

The council is also planning to cooperate with the senior branch in the fight to close the so-called "special activity" schools in Cleveland, in which Negroes are concentrated. The prospect looks especially bright, since the personnel of the board of education has changed. Roy Stewart is chairman of the educational committee of the council. Mrs. Rachel Davis DuBois, director of the Commission on Intercultural Education of the Progressive Education Association located in New York City, was guest speaker at the membership meeting on Sunday, December 5.

Lynching Round Table Sponsored in Chicago

The Chicago youth council under the leadership of Thelma Johnson, president, sponsored a round-table discussion on the anti-lynching bill during the week of January 9. Mrs. Frances Taylor Mosely is the new adviser of the council.

Christmas Seal Musical Tea

A Christmas Seal musical tea was given at St. John's Congregational church from 2 to 5 p.m. on December 12, under the auspices of the youth council of the Springfield, Massachusetts, branch. The admission was the purchase of ten N.A.A.C.P. Christmas Seals. Miss Mae Young was chairman of the affair. Among those pouring tea

were Mrs. John Thomas, Mrs. George Gordon, and Miss Mildred Johnson. A musical and dramatic program was arranged by Miss Virginia Holt, assisted by Miss Ethel Johnson, Miss Roberta Munse, James Henderson, George Franklin, and Harold Edmunds.

Interracial Speakers at Mobile Council

Messrs. P. Laurin Bunker and Donald P. Seigniller, white, of Salt Lake City, Utah, were the featured speakers at a meeting of the Mobile, Ala., youth council, December 12, at the Warren street M. E. church. The guest speakers spoke on the social, economic and religious problems which face Negro and white people alike today.

Educational Rallies in Jersey City

The second in the educational rallies being held by the Jersey City youth council of the association, took place in Ocean avenue Baptist church December 10. Charles Riddick was chairman of the program. Group singing was directed by Miss Costella Coles, and a general discussion led by the Rev. E. P. Dixon and the Rev. F. Means on the subject: "The Negro and His Everyday Work."

Book Review

THE UNVARNISHED SOUTH* by George S. Schuyler.

No section of the country has been more sickled over with colorful hokum of romance and bogus tradition than the region below the Potomac and Ohio Rivers. Saccharine songs about it have tumbled out of Tin Pan Alley at the rate of one a week for the past quarter century. Nostalgic novels supposedly portraying its vanished "culture" have left goo-goo eyed Yankees ga-ga and offered an opportunity for the minority of professional southerners to beat their arched chests and bellow about white supremacy while denouncing the more enlightened North for destroying their "civilization."

The brutal fact is that the South never had any culture and hasn't any culture now. From the very beginning it was populated by crude hustlers with their pellagic slaves and serfs. Having chased the hapless Indians off the none-too-rich land, they promptly proceeded to ruin its moderate fertility by the criminal ignorance of husbandry, until today much of the territory is practically a wilderness, aimlessly and sporadically tilled by starving cretins.

In barnyard "religion," homicide, incest, illiteracy, bastardy, lynching and degrading poverty, the South stands supreme. In education, humanitarianism, social justice, liberalism, labor organization, museums, literature, libraries and such evidences of modern civilization it sprawls at the bottom of the states.

Professional southerners with more patriotism than probity blame the plight of the South on the Reconstruction Period and the

rascality of the Northern politicians, financiers and carpetbaggers. But the South's plight is really its own fault, and every sporadic effort to improve conditions there has only succeeded in worsening them because bigotry of the worst sort, religious, sectional and racial, rules the lives and thoughts of its inhabitants and dooms them to national isolation and ultimate extinction. They just won't change, and those who won't change in a changing world must perish.

* YOU HAVE SEEN THEIR FACES by Erskine Caldwell and Margaret Bourke-White. Modern Age Books, N. Y. \$75.

The South is caught in a trap, both the owners and the workers, and that trap is made of cotton. The production of cotton constantly increases throughout the world so that American cotton comes more and more in competition with foreign cotton. The world price of cotton is determined by that of the most cheaply produced cotton. The cotton grown abroad in "backward" countries is more cheaply produced than that in Dixie with the result that the income of southern cotton farmers is forced down to the foreign level.

At the same time the standard of living of the industrial workers, producing and transporting the commodities the southern farmer needs, is the highest in the world with corresponding wage scales. Obviously no agriculturist can sell in a declining market and buy in a rising market without courting sure disaster. Thus the economic plight of the South.

From this sorry condition the South is unable to escape because it does not possess the ability to face the facts, lacks enlightened leadership, will not tolerate internal criticism, shudders at the thought of self-analysis, hasn't the courage or the ability to perform a major operation upon itself, and will not permit anybody else to do it. So, like a dying tuberculosis victim, it sees the world through rose tinted spectacles, and voodoo-like imagines it can cure its ills by exorcising demons: i.e., the Negro, the Yankees, Wall Street, Sin, etc. Its psychology is similar to that which pervaded Nazi Germany in the halcyon days immediately following Hitler's rise to power, but instead of the Jew, the South's avatar is the Negro.

Praise is due Erskine Caldwell for tearing away the veil of hypocrisy and falsehood surrounding this subject and illuminating it with the flood light of truth. Now with the ace photographer, Margaret Bourke-White, he gives us "You Have Seen Their Faces" which for the first time in word and picture presents the rural South as it is. Not the South of paved streets and slick facades: not the South of colorful mansions and bungalows, frigidaire and golf links, radios and country clubs, but the stark, cruel, desperate, degraded South that the Chambers of Commerce fail to mention: the South of blow torch lynchings, chain gangs, hookworm and ignorance, the South of ten million anemic and wretched sub-humans.

This is not a "nice" book. It is a disturbing book, in some ways a shocking book. But if this national disease we call the South is ever to be intelligently treated, we must become intimately acquainted with its symptoms and stop believing the pretty pictures produced by propagandists wedded to a largely mythical past and divorced from the realities of the present.

A six-room home and economic practice cottage was dedicated at the **Russell Grove (Va.) high school** on December 8, built by funds given by the county school board and citizens. W. A. Brown is the principal.

50-cent Milk Shake Brings \$250 Fine

A CHARGE of 50 cents for a milk shake to Miss Louise Algee by a clerk in a store in Xenia, Ohio, on November 5, 1937, cost the store clerk and the proprietor \$250 plus court costs under the Ohio civil rights laws.

Miss Algee, a county health nurse, entered the store of the P. D. Cosmos Ice Cream Company on East Main street, in Xenia and asked for a milk shake. She was charged 50 cents for it. Other Negroes, prior to that time, had been charged as much as \$1.50 for the 10-cent drink. There was a sign in the store stating that the company reserved the right to change prices at any time.

Miss Algee made a complaint against the employee of the store, Martha Barron, on November 6 and the case was tried in the municipal court of Xenia before Judge Frank L. Johnson, lasting three days.

Judge Johnson fined Miss Barron \$250 plus court costs and delivered one of the clearest charges to the jury on a civil rights case to be found in legal records.

After citing the Ohio civil rights law (Section 12940 of the General Code of Ohio) Judge Johnson charged the jury:

"The statute which I have just read you is very plain but so there can be no misunderstanding about its meaning the court charges you that under this statute a colored citizen has as much right to buy articles of merchandise in a store or other place of public accommodation as a white citizen, and no person has a right to deny to a citizen because of his color or race the full enjoyment of the accommodations, advantages, facilities or privileges of the places enumerated in the statute. If the defendant increased the price of an article in a place enumerated in the statute to Louise Algee because she was a colored citizen then that would be a violation of the statute.

"I charge you as a matter of law that if the place or establishment in which the defendant worked has a public listed price of malted milk or had a general price for malted milk which they charged for same, and if the defendant charged the complaining witness more than the listed price or the general price charged for said malted milk and said increased price was on account of the color or race of the said Louise Algee, then that would be an overcharge and a violation of Section 12940 of the General Code. A person would have no right to change the regular price of an article because the customer was of the Negro race even if signs were posted in the store that prices

were subject to change without notice or subject to change momentarily. The defendant would only have the right to change the price if it was changed to all citizens alike and not on account of their race or color.

"The defendant would have no right to order the complaining witness to drink her malted milk outside if the defendant did this on account of the color or race of the complaining witness and allowed other citizens of the white race to drink malted milks in the place. Neither would the defendant have the right to charge the complaining witness more if she drank the malted milk in the place if she did not also

charge white people more for drinking malted milk in the place. In other words under the Statute 12940 of the General Code of Ohio, there can be no discrimination made at all whatever to a person on account of their race or color."

Thirty-three-year-old President Arenia C. Mallory of the Saints Industrial and Literary School, Lexington,

Miss., was recently honored by distinguished educators of the state on her twelfth anniversary as founder and head of the institution which now has 500 students, 13 teachers and 350 acres of land.

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- Policies in force: 1,643,125
- Ordinary Insurance: \$80,106,234
- Industrial Insurance: \$181,961,766.63
- Health and Accident Insurance: \$26,895,069.37
- Employment: 8,150 Negroes
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- Increased business, 1936: \$45,645,466
- Increase in policies, 1936: 251,047

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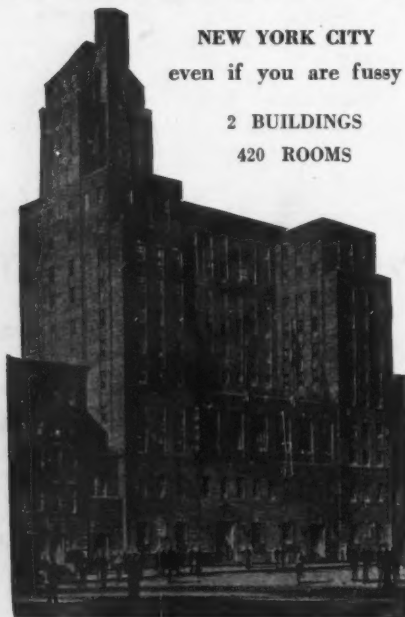
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